

The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O., MELBOURNE, FOR TRANSMISSION BY POST AS A NEWSPAPER

THE OFFICIAL FEDERAL JOURNAL of the ASSOCIATED PHARMACEUTICAL ORGANISATIONS of AUSTRALIA

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

New Series: Vol. 34—No. 405

SEPTEMBER 30, 1953

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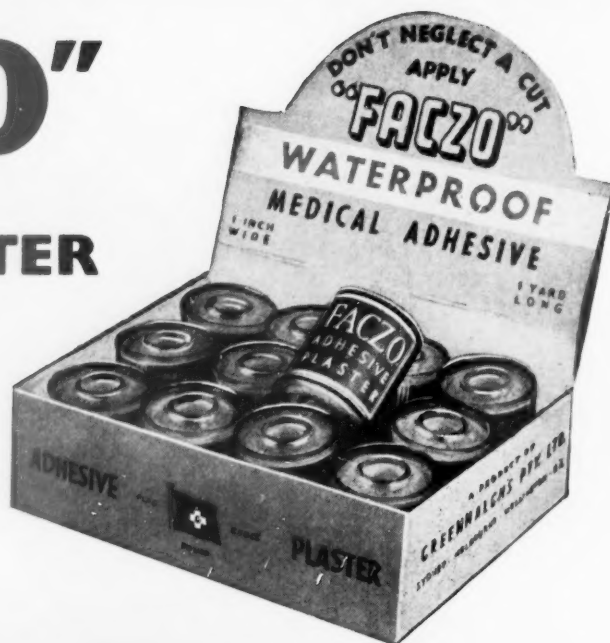
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Published on the 30th of each month by
The Australasian Pharmaceutical Publishing Co. Ltd.
Registered Office, 354-364 Swanston Street, Melbourne.
Telephones: FJ 3047, FJ 5161.

Subscription: Within British Empire, £1/15/- p.a.; other addresses, £2.
Single copies: Within Australia, 3/-; overseas, 3/6.

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EXAMINATION DATES 1953.

Preliminary Examination.—November 18-23.

Intermediate Examination.—November 10-19.

Final Examination.—November 23-December 2.

Entries for the Preliminary and Intermediate Examinations close fourteen days, and for the Final Examination twenty-one days, before the date of commencement of the Examination.

Full details obtainable from the office of the Board.
F. C. KENT, Registrar.

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PHARMACY BOARD OF N.S.W.

The next Qualifying Examination will be held in February, 1954.

Watch this column for further advice.

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P. E. COSGRAVE,
Registrar.

PHARMACEUTICAL DEFENCE LIMITED ANNUAL ELECTION.

It is hereby notified that an ELECTION will be held to fill TWO ORDINARY VACANCIES on the Board of Directors of Pharmaceutical Defence Limited and to elect AUDITORS on the 25th day of November, 1953. The Directors who retire by rotation are Walter James Cornell and Norman Cyril Cossar. Monday, the 2nd day of November, 1953, has been appointed as the day of nomination. Nomination papers of candidates for the offices of Director or Auditors must be lodged or delivered by post with the Secretary at the registered office of the Company, 360 Swanston Street, Melbourne, before 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the day fixed for nomination. In the event of more candidates being nominated than there are vacancies, a POLL will be taken on the 25th day of November, 1953.

V. G. MORIESON, Returning Officer.
Melbourne, September 30, 1953.

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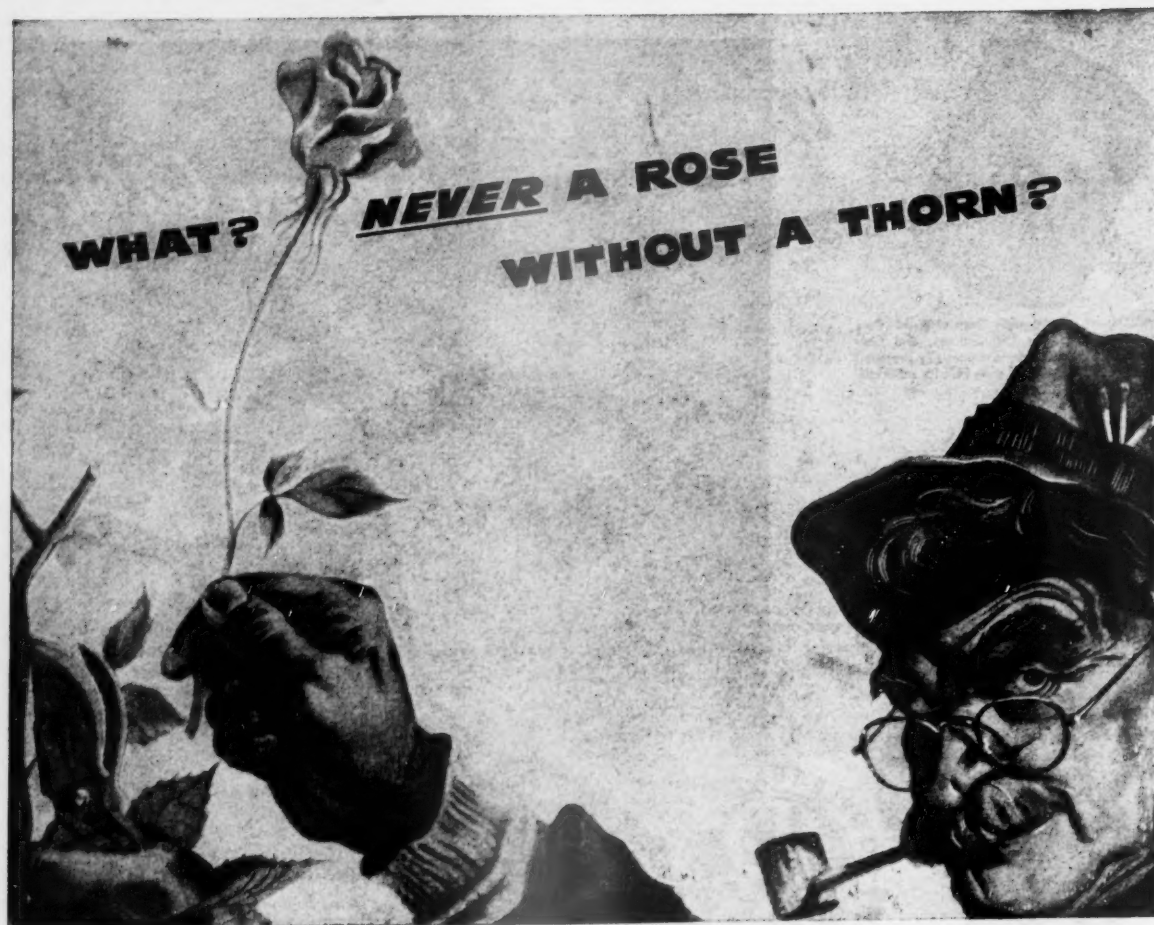
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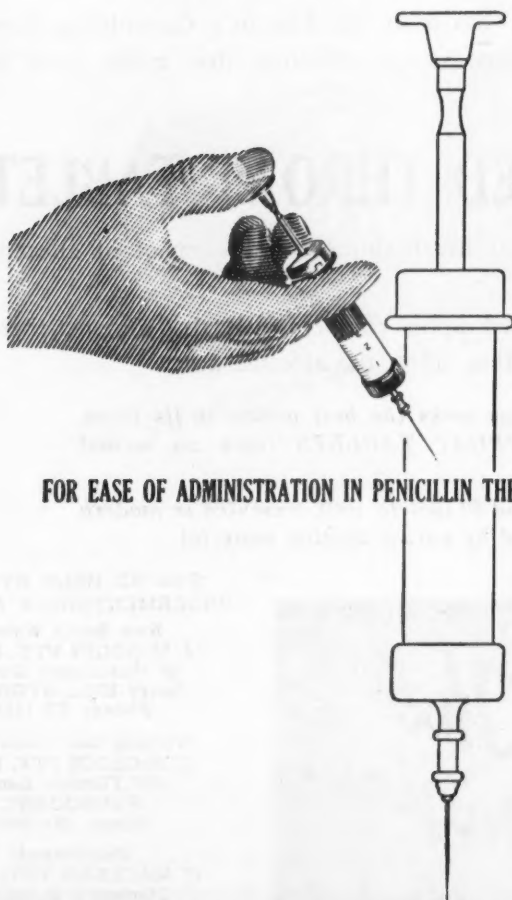
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


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Editorial

New Series: Vol. 34—No. 405

Old Series: Vol. LXVIII—No. 813

September 30, 1953

The Twentieth Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference

THE proceedings of the Twentieth Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference are recorded in this issue of the Journal.

On the last two occasions of Conference an extra number of the Journal was published to carry a record of the Conference proceedings and activities to members, but, unfortunately, this could not be done on this occasion.

The nett cost of the special issue of the Journal published in 1951 to record the Brisbane Conference proceedings was over £700. Such an expenditure could not on this occasion be contemplated by the management which, for a number of years past, has been forced to consider ways and means of offsetting increased printing and publishing costs without unduly increasing the cost of Journal to members through their Societies.

The reader's reaction to conference reports is no doubt determined by his outlook on life generally. The cynical will regard such assemblies as futile extravagance; the man with broader outlook, as landmarks in the progress of his profession.

It is desirable that a balanced view be taken. Conferences as organised today are costly, strenuous and time-consuming. It might reasonably be expected, therefore, that something of value should come from them.

Of our Pharmaceutical Conferences it can be said that they do provide a meeting ground for leaders of all the organisations, who are enabled to come together and in a friendly atmosphere discuss the problems which beset them.

It could also be truthfully affirmed that many differences between States have been settled in the Conference Room; many new movements (e.g., interstate reciprocity—the formation of the Guild) have been discussed, argued and settled to the general good of all.

The Twentieth Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference in Sydney may not go down in his-

tory as an epoch-making event. So far as one could judge at this stage, no decisions of great significance were made. Time, however, may show differently.

The Sydney meeting might perhaps be regarded as a Report Session. Reports on most of the important activities in pharmacy were presented and discussed by the delegates.

Keen disappointment was felt that the two representatives of the New Zealand Chemists' Guild who were to have been present were debarred at the last moment from coming. Their reports would have been of especial interest to Australian pharmacists. Some regret was expressed also that New Zealand has, because of distance and a tendency to develop along different lines, severed its association with the Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference. Following the withdrawal of New Zealand, the Association will now be known as the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia.

During the Conference, delegates must have to some extent been very preoccupied with thoughts of the crisis which had developed between the Guild and Federal Government, and which had at the very time that Conference was in session become a subject of serious discussion and concern. That crisis, happily, has been overcome and the claims of pharmacy duly vindicated.

The Sydney Conference was inaugurated in a dignified and impressive ceremony during which His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, Sir John Northcott, delivered the opening address. This was an honour not accorded any previous Conference.

Organisation of the Sydney meeting by the New South Wales Conference Committee was faultless, hospitality unbounded and goodwill universal.

Much sickness and the tragedy of Mr. Little's sudden death cast shadows over a Conference which otherwise would have been a very happy event.

Dispensing for Pensioners

Eleventh Hour Agreement with Sir Earle Page

Guild Price Structure Basis for Payments

[Editor's Note: We are indebted to Mr. Keith Attiwill, Federal Director of Pharmaceutical Public Relations, for this last-minute review of the vital stages of negotiations between the Commonwealth Government and the Guild on the Guild's claims for elimination of losses on pensioner medicine prescriptions, and for an overhaul of the principles upon which the Pharmaceutical Benefits Service was launched, to bring it into conformity with present conditions.]

At the eleventh hour, negotiation between the Federal Minister for Health (Sir Earle Page) and the Guild Negotiating Committee led by the Federal President of the Guild (Mr. Eric Scott) ended the threatened withdrawal of the Guild from the Pensioner Medicine Service.

This was achieved at a conference in Canberra on Wednesday, September 30. Afterwards, Sir Earle Page issued a Press statement in consultation with Mr. Scott and the Federal Director of Pharmaceutical Public Relations (Mr. Keith Attiwill).

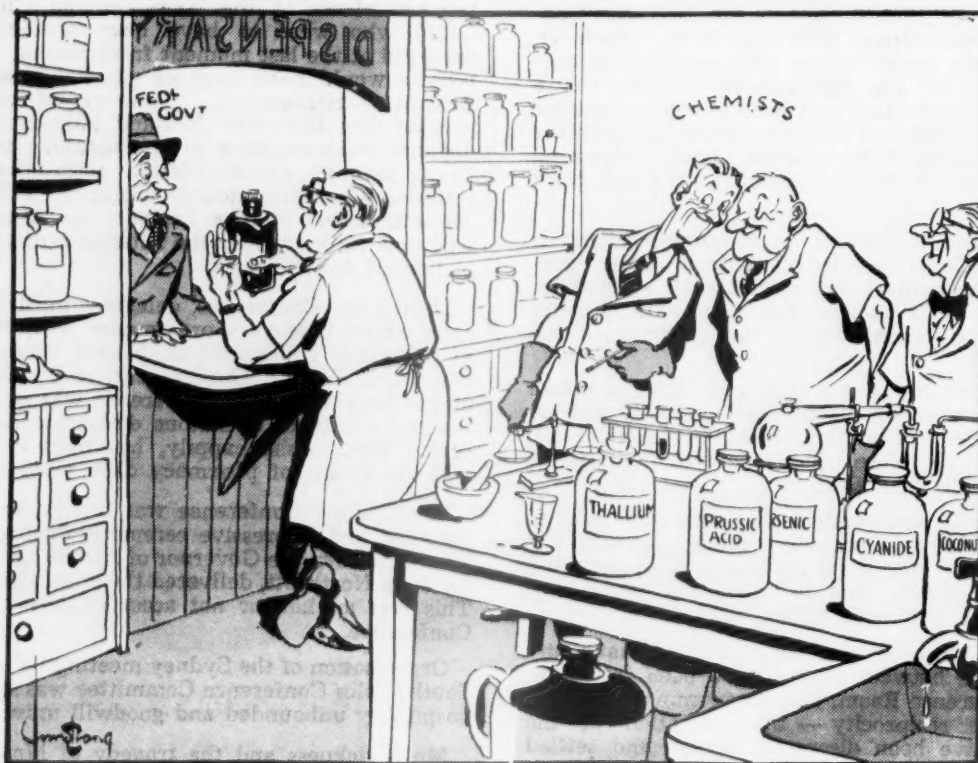
It stated that, as a result of the discussion, a basis of mutual agreement had been reached "with regard to outstanding questions at issue concerning the Pensioner Medicine Service."

The statement appeared throughout Australia next morning, but because of the intense interest shown by members in all States, Mr. Scott immediately despatched a letter to all Guild members. In it he mentioned that Mr. Athol Townley, who had acted as Minister for Health in the absence abroad of Sir Earle Page, had attended the Conference.

Basic Terms of Agreement.

Mr. Scott's letter to members, which was dated October 1, was as follows:—

"Your Negotiating Committee reached the basis of a mutual agreement with the Minister for Health (Sir Earle Page) in Canberra yesterday, when we met to discuss outstanding questions at issue in the Pensioner



"Take four tablespoons in a glass of sulphuric."

—Cartoon by courtesy of "The Argus," Melbourne.

Medicine Service. The Minister for Social Services (Mr. Athol Townley), who acted as Minister for Health in Sir Earle Page's recent absence abroad, attended the Conference.

"The need for drastic action has now been removed, and the dispensing of pensioners' prescriptions can proceed without interruption.

"The solidarity of members in their determined efforts to obtain more equitable terms of payment for com-



Three of the Guild leaders at Canberra (l. to r.): Mr. Eric Scott (Federal President), Mr. A. C. Fraser (N.S.W.), and Mr. O. C. V. Leggo (Federal Treasurer).

pounded medicines was shown in the overwhelming plebiscite vote. Of 2194 votes cast, 1930 were in favour and 243 against withdrawing from the Pensioner Medicine Service if Guild submissions had been finally rejected. There were 21 informal votes.

"The basic terms of our agreement with the Ministers yesterday are as follows:—

1. Payment to chemists will be calculated upon the Guild price structure, less a discount of 8 1/3rd per cent.
2. The basic wholesale price of the drugs used in compounding will be determined by a Standing Committee of Guild and Federal Health Department representatives.
3. The Standing Committee will meet in Sydney next Wednesday, October 7, to determine the formula for arriving at the basic wholesale price of drugs and containers, as well as the other factors involved, so that the dispensed price can be computed.
4. The wholesale and dispensed price of drugs will be listed, and will be the Dispensing Drug Tariff for private and Government use throughout the Commonwealth.
5. If the complete detailed agreement can be finished in October, it will apply to prescriptions dispensed as from October 1.

"The Guild members of the Standing Committee are myself and the Chairman (Mr. L. J. Thompson) and Executive Secretary (Mr. A. C. Fraser) of the Guild Bureau of Pharmaceutical Statistics. These three also comprise the Federal Council Negotiating Committee."

GUILD'S THREE "BONES OF CONTENTION."

Following the annual meetings in August of State Branches of the Guild, and many country meetings addressed by Mr. Scott and State Guild officials, it was obvious to the Commonwealth Government that the

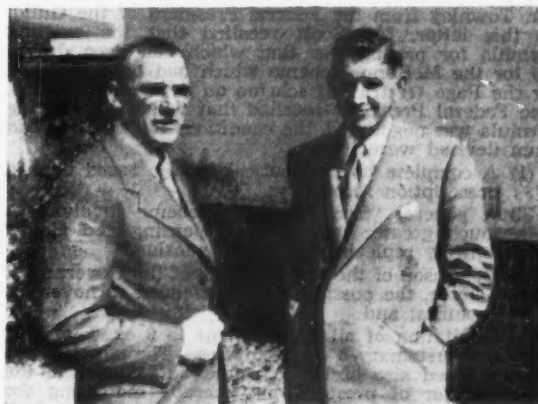
overwhelming majority of Guild members were dissatisfied by three points:

- (1) Failure of the Commonwealth Government to ratify a new dispensing agreement between the Repatriation Commissioners and the Guild which was based upon private dispensing rates less a discount of 8 1/3rd per cent.;
- (2) Action of the Health Department in grouping together items 196 (formerly 165) and 197 (formerly 166) in the pharmaceutical benefits list (Sulphonamides Mixed (A): Two Sulphonamides and Sulphonamides Mixed (B): Three Sulphonamides). This gave them a high velocity incidence and brought them into the category which removed them from the Thomas Table;
- (3) Failure of the Health Department to introduce an equitable method of paying chemists for dispensing under the Pensioner Medicine Service.

At this late stage the events of the last five weeks need not be recapitulated. Sir Earle Page left Australia to attend the World Health Conference at The Hague, Holland, just before the "storm" broke over his "free" medicine service. Mr. Athol Townley, who assumed office at this critical time, took prompt steps to bring before the Minister for Repatriation (Senator Cooper) the fact that non-ratification of the repatriation agreement, though not in Mr. Townley's domain, was linked by the Guild in its three-point demand for an overhaul of the Government-Guild contracts. On September 11 the Government authorised the signing of the repatriation agreement.

The Guild recognised that the solution of the problem of the wastage and loss table (the Thomas Table) might involve long negotiation, but it was apparent that the P.M.S. dispute needed swift remedial action.

An intense newspaper campaign was conducted by the Federal Pharmaceutical Public Relations Secretariat. In addition, the case for a new and upward revision of P.M.S. rates and full acceptance of the Thomas Table principle was made widely known by Mr. Attiwill among Government supporters at Canberra. Much



Two of the interstate representatives at Canberra: Mr. W. E. Martin (Qld.), at left, and Mr. G. D. T. Allan (W.A.).

sympathy was shown for those chemists who were dispensing P.M.S. prescriptions at a loss, and who suffered loss from the removal of sulpha drugs from the Thomas Table.

A brochure was issued by the Acting Minister in answer to the Federal President's letters to Guild members.

The Federal Council met Mr. Townley at Canberra on September 17, but the Conference failed to reach

agreement. Nevertheless, it paved the way to a re-writing of the Guild's statement of claims based upon the original "Principles of Pricing" for pharmaceutical benefits and pensioner benefits.

The statement of claims was drawn up in Sydney on September 19 and 20 by the Guild's Bureau of Pharmaceutical Statistics. Mr. Scott and Mr. Attiwill attended a Bureau meeting on Sunday, September 20,



Mr. T. B. Evans (Guild Federal Secretary, at left) discusses a knotty point with Mr. K. E. Thomas (N.S.W.), originator of the "Thomas Table."

and on their way back to Melbourne that night handed the document to the Government.

"Guild Rates, Less a Discount."

This vital document was enclosed with a letter to Mr. Townley from the Federal President of the Guild. In this letter, Mr. Scott recalled that the existing formula for pricing was that which had been drawn up for the McKenna scheme which had been replaced by the Page (restricted) scheme on September 4, 1950. The Federal President recalled that when the existing formula was negotiated, the conditions for which it had been devised were:

- (1) A complete pharmaceutical service based upon a prescription formulary;
- (2) A general "free" medicine scheme involving a much greater volume of dispensing and almost entirely replacing private dispensing.
- (3) By reason of the "free" nature of the Government scheme, the possibilities of extended turnover for chemists; and
- (4) Limitation of all prescriptions to 6 oz., replacing the customary 8 oz. quantities. The effect of the reduced size of bottle would be to increase the number of prescriptions, thereby increasing the dispensing fees payable, and acting as a set-off against the lower mark-ups under the Government scheme.

When the present Government altered the McKenna "complete pharmaceutical service" to a "restricted life-saving drug service" (the latter continued), and later introduced the Pensioner Medicine Service, the Guild had helped the Government before adequate negotiation had been possible to settle the system of pricing. The Guild, in other words, had agreed to the then existing formula of pricing prescriptions, provided that it was protected from probable loss. The Government and the Guild had agreed then that the schemes were "highly experimental" from the standpoint of the applicability of the formula to protect the chemists.

The re-written formula in the Guild's statement of claims is based upon the prevailing new conditions—that Government work, instead of providing extra volume, merely replaced a small part of chemists' private work. Nevertheless, the formula was based upon giving a concessional discount to the Government equal to 8 1/3 per cent. off private rates.

Interim Plan Not Acceptable.

Sir Earle Page returned to Australia on September 24, but before Mr. Townley relinquished his portfolio as Acting Minister for Health, he advised individual chemists of an "interim scheme" of payment for certain P.M.S. prescriptions, so that some immediate relief could be given to chemists while the Government was studying the Guild's full statement of claims. This was described by Mr. Scott as chaotic and therefore unacceptable.

"Ultimatum" Extended to October 8.

When the overwhelming plebiscite result became known, it was within a few days of the Guild's "deadline" date of October 1 set by the plebiscite for withdrawal of the P.M.S. service unless the Guild's terms were accepted. To give Sir Earle Page full opportunity to study what had developed in his absence, this "deadline" was extended to October 8.

Settlement is Reached.

On September 28, determined to make a final attempt to resolve the dispute by negotiation, Mr. Scott arranged through Mr. Attiwill the Canberra Conference of September 30 at which the "basis of mutual agreement" was reached.

The Standing Committee.

Setting up of the Standing Committee is a highly important step. It has a big task ahead, but it recognises the principle of "partnership" between the Government and the Guild (representing the chemists of Australia) in the health service. It has a fine opportunity to remodel the contractual arrangement between the parties upon a sound and equitable basis that will support any changes and extensions of the health service.

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Pharmaceutical Benefits Act

Amendments to the Table (List No. 2)

(Effective from October 1, 1953.)

Item No.	Item Name.	s.	d.	Item No.	Item Name.	s.	d.
11	ATROPINE SULPHATE. Delete the following basic price:— 1/50 gr. hypo. tab. ... 20 for	1	4	113	MORPHINE SULPHATE. Amend basic price as follows:— 1/3 gr. hypo. tab. ... 20 for	2	4
	Delete all reference:— Boots 1/50 gr. hypo. tab.				Amend prices as follows:— Boots.		
	Amend prices as follows:— Boots.				1/6 gr. hypo. tab. ... 20 for	2	8
	1/150 gr. hypo. tab. ... 20 for	2	0		1/3 gr. hypo. tab. ... 20 for	3	4
	1/100 gr. hypo. tab. ... 20 for	2	0		Faulding.		
37	DEOXYCORTONE ACETATE, OILY INJECTION OF. Amend code letters after "D.O.C.A." from "BP" to "OR".				1/2 gr. hypo. tab. ... 20 for	2	4
42	DICOUMAROL. Amend name "British Pharmaceuticals" to "Dicoumarin (OR)".				1/6 gr. hypo. tab. ... 20 for	2	8
44	DIETHYLCARBAMAZINE. Amend price as follows:— Hetrazan (LE) 50 mg. tab. ... 20 for	11	8		Add the following:— Faulding.		
46	DIGITALIS. Amend basic prices as follows:— 1/2 gr. tab. ... 100 for	2	0		20, ..., 1/2 gr. hypo. tab. ... 20 for	3	0
	1 gr. tab. ... 100 for	2	3		20, ..., 1/2 gr. hypo. tab. ... 20 for	4	0
	Amend prices as follows:— Faulding.				Amend maximum quantity for am- poules listed under Knoll Labo- ratories from "20" to "6".		
	1/2 gr. tab. ... 100 for	2	0	120	MORPHINE WITH ATROPINE (G). Amend basic price as follows:— 1 hypo. tab. ... 20 for	2	7
	1 gr. tab. ... 100 for	2	3		Amend price as follows:— Boots 1 hypo. tab. ... 20 for	3	0
51	DIHYDROSTREPTOMYCIN. Amend prices as follows:— Pasing (DN) 1 G. vial ... 1 for	5	1	142	PENICILLIN, PROCAINE, OILY INJECTION OF. Amend first entry in column 5 to read "300,000 U. per cc., 1 cc. amp."		
	B.D.H. 1 G. vial ... 1 for	5	1	143	PERNAEMON CRUDUM. Amend code letters from "BP" to "OR".		
57	DIPHThERIA PERTUSSIS ANTIGEN. Amend basic price as follows:— 1 cc. amp. ... 3 for	9	4	144	PERNAEMON FORT. Amend code letters from "BP" to "OR".		
	Amend price as follows:— C.S.L. 1 cc. amp. ... 3 for	9	4	147	PETHIDINE HYDROCHLORIDE. Amend price as follows:— Pethanal (CM) 50 mg. per cc., 2 cc. amp. ... 12 for	11	3
60	DISTILLED WATER. Amend price as follows:— C.S.L. 10 cc. amp. ... 12 for	10	0		Add the following:— Fawns and McAllan 6, ..., 50 mg. per cc., 1 cc. amp. ... 6 for	4	0
64	EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE. Amend basic price as follows:— 1/2 gr. tab. ... 100 for	4	5	149	PHENITONE. Add the following:— Sigma.		
	Delete all reference:— Knoll Laboratories 1/2 gr. tab.				100, 1, 1/2 gr. tab. ... 100 for	4	11
88	HYOSCINE HYDROBROMIDE. Amend prices as follows:— Boots.				100, 1, 1 gr. tab. ... 100 for	6	0
	1/200 gr. hypo. tab. ... 20 for	2	0		100, 1, 3 gr. tab. ... 100 for	12	8
	1/100 gr. hypo. tab. ... 20 for	2	4	155	PTHALYLSULPHATHIAZOLE. Amend basic price as follows:— 7 1/2 gr. tab. ... 100 for	22	0
89	INSULIN, INJECTION OF. Move position of names "C.S.L." and "Wellcome" up one line— the first form of unit and rate listed for C.S.L. will then be "20 U. per cc., 10 cc. vial 1 for 3s."; and for Wellcome will be "20 U. per cc., 5 cc. vial, 1 for 1s. 11d."				Add the following:— Andrew's 100, 1, 7 1/2 gr. tab. ... 100 for	22	0
94	ISONIAZID. Amend price as follows:— Sigma 50 mg. tab. ... 100 for	10	11	160	PITUITARY (POSTERIOR LOBE) INJECTION OF. Amend basic prices as follows:— 0.5 cc. amp. ... 6 for	5	3
					1 cc. amp. ... 6 for	8	7
					Amend prices as follows:— Pituitary Obstetrical—C.S.L.		
					0.5 cc. amp. ... 6 for	5	3
					1 cc. amp. ... 6 for	8	7

Item No.	Item Name.	s.	d.
162	PROGESTERONE, INJECTION OF. Amend price as follows:— Boots 5 mg. amp. 6 for 16 0 Amend code letters after "Proges- tin-Organon" from "BP" to "OR".		
184	STILBOESTROL. Delete all reference:— Boots 1 mg. amp. and 5 mg. amp.		
185	STREPTOMYCIN. Amend prices as follows:— Pasing (DN) 1 G. vial 1 for 5 1 A. & H. 1 G. vial 1 for 5 1 B.D.H. 1 G. vial 1 for 5 1 Evans 1 G. vial 1 for 5 1 Wellcome 1 G. vial 1 for 5 1		
188	SULPHADIAZINE. Amend name "P.D. & Co." to "Infatab (PD)" against 5 gr. tab., and add "P.D. & Co." against 7½ gr. tab.		
191	SULPHAGUANIDINE. Add the following:— Shigatox (FM) 100, 1, 7½ gr. tab. 100 for 8 4		
201	TERRAMYCIN. In column 5 add "Intramuscular" after "100 mg. vial" and "Intra- venous" after "250 mg. per 10 cc. vial."		
202	TESTOSTERONE, METHYL. Amend name "Neo-Hombreol (BP)" to "Organon Labora- tories."		
203	TESTOSTERONE PROPIONATE, INJECTION OF. Amend code letters after "Neo- Hombreol" from "BP" to "OR". Amend prices as follows:— Neo-Hombreol (OR). 25 mg. per 1 cc. amp. 12 for 66 8 50 mg. per 1 cc. amp. 12 for 120 0		
206	THEOPHYLLINE WITH ETHYLENEDIAMINE. Amend prices as follows:— Aminophylline—Faulding 1½ gr. tab. 100 for 5 4 Add the following:— Aminophylline—Boots 100, 1, 1½ gr. tab. 100 for 5 4		
210	THYROID B.P. Removed from list of drugs subject to provisions of Regulation 14A. Delete "*" and footnote "RE- STRICTED DRUG—See p. 4." Delete all reference:— D.H.A. 1 gr. tab.		
212	TRIETHANOLAMINE TRINITRATE. Amend basic price as follows:— 1 mg. tab. 100 for 8 11 Amend price as follows:— Praenitron (SC) 1 mg. tab. . . 100 for 8 11		
215	VITAMIN B12, INJECTION OF. Amend prices as follows:— Euhaemon (AH). 50 γ per 1 cc. amp. 6 for 10 0 100 γ per 1 cc. amp. 6 for 15 0		
218	VITAMIN K (Oral). Amend prices as follows:— Kayvite (SI) 5 mg. tab. 100 for 5 4 Add the following:— Kayvite (SI) 100, 1, 10 mg. tab. 100 for 8 11		

Proprietary Index.

Add the following:—

Dicoumarin	42	Organon Laboratories	OR
Infatab	188	Parke, Davis & Co. Ltd.	PD
Shigatox	191	Fawns & McAllan	FM

Amend the following:—

1. Amend manufacturers' name and code shown against "D.O.C.A." (page 115), "Pernaemon Crudum" and "Pernaemon Fort" (page 117) from "British Pharmaceuticals Pty. Ltd. . . B.P." to "Organon Laboratories . . OR".

2. Delete Item No. "202" shown against "Neo-Hombreol" (page 117) and amend manufacturers' name and code as shown in (1) above.

Amendments to "Notes for Approved Chemists."

1. The following drug has been deleted from the list of drugs subject to the provisions of Regulation 14A of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Regulations:—

Item No.: 210. Item Name: Thyroid BP.
This Item No. and Item Name should therefore be deleted from the list appearing on page 4.

2. Products previously listed under the name "British Pharmaceuticals . . BP" will in future be listed under the name "Organon Laboratories . . OR". The appropriate alterations in the Table of Prices and Proprietary Index are notified above. The List of Manufacturers and Codes as supplied to doctors (see pages 120 and 121) should be amended by deleting "British Pharmaceuticals Pty. Ltd. . . BP" under sub-heading "B" and substituting "Organon Laboratories . . OR" under sub-heading "O".

NEW HEART DRUG DISCOVERED BY SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

Wide publicity has been given in the Australian daily press to the alleged discovery of a new heart drug by the Department of Pharmacology in the University of Sydney.

It would seem from the press reports that the drug has not yet undergone clinical trial but is alleged to be the biggest step forward since the discovery of cortisone.

Mention has also been made of a possible intention to protect the manufacture or name of the drug in favour of the Sydney University. This is a new approach to drug marketing in Australia.

Two important aspects of these published accounts are worthy of comment.

(i) So often have widely publicised wonder drugs fallen below the hopes held for them, when they have been administered at the bedside over a reasonable period of time. This has proved particularly cruel to sufferers and to the relatives of sufferers, when the expectations of the new drug have not been realised. In other words, early publicity may prove unwise.

(ii) Whatever part a university takes in the marketing of a drug, it would be wise to obtain the very best advice possible. Any business activities into which a university enters will be naturally subject to close scrutiny by the community.

In spite of this, it is the sincere hope of all Australian pharmaceutical bodies that the expectation of the Sydney Department is fully realised and that full credit will be freely given to those deserving it.

The Sydney Department of Pharmacology is young and vigorous. Much interest is taken by the whole of pharmacy in the way it directs its vigour and in the role that the Pharmacy Department has to play in this development.

DISPENSING PROBLEMS

Interpretation of Liquids in Ointments.

At our last meeting we discussed "Interpretation of Liquids in Ointments," which was published in the June issue. If the rule, "liquids by volume, solids by weight," is followed, we decided that there was only one way to interpret the prescription, and that is the second formula that is printed.

Although this prescription is of no great importance, we feel that unless a decision is given, a precedent could occur in future prescriptions.

E. GROVE, Secretary,
The Pharmaceutical Discussion
Group, Brisbane.

Although conventions in pharmaceutical procedure are invaluable in assuring a uniform product, they should not be inflexible, and should not be followed to the exclusion of judgment.

It was stated that "liquids by volume and solids by weight" was the method of choice in this instance. It will obviously be so on most occasions.

However, if the liquid in an ointment were a rubefacient or escharotic substance, the pharmacist may see fit to depart from the convention and interpret such a prescription by one of the other alternatives suggested, in the interests of safety. Any of the three methods would be reasonable to the extent that reasonable examiners or reasonable analysts could hardly object to them.

An analyst checking prescriptions for accuracy in dispensing, in consequence of this, needs pharmaceutical advisers, lest the results of his analyses should be interpreted harshly or even incorrectly.

The most significant aspect of the prescription, however, is the fourth alternative. Suppose such a prescription is simplified as follows:—

R/		
Paraff. Liq.	.....	3iv
Zinc. Oxid.	.....	3iv
Calamin	.....	3iv
Paraff. Moll ad.	.....	3ii

The method of taking 3iv by volume of Liquid Paraffin and 3iv by weight of the remaining three solids will yield a product, the composition of which is difficult to defend at law, from the pharmaceutical point of view. A final argument against rigid interpretation is the difficulty of application to semi-solid substances, such as Ichthammol; and to substances which liquify at slightly elevated temperatures, such as undecylenic acid.

Isotonic Aminacrine Nasal Drops.

The following prescription was handed to us recently:

R/		
Neosynephrine	.....	1%
Aminacrine Hydrochloride	.....	0.1%
Normal Saline ad.	.....	3fs.
Mitte	3fs. Sig. m.d.u. t.i.d.	



Aminacrine Hydrochloride is soluble 1 in 300 in water, but soluble 1 in 2000 is normal saline. To get over this difficulty we decided to use 120 m. of Neosynephrine solution, 1% (which is isotonic) and make this up to 1/2 fl. oz., with an isotonic solution which had also the correct amount of Aminacrine dissolved in it. Dextrose was chosen to make this solution isotonic, as it is non-ionic, and would therefore neither inactivate nor be incompatible with the Aminacrine Hydrochloride.

—A.I.K.L.

Anion-Cation Incompatibility in Nasal Drops.

The following prescription was received at the pharmacy and I would be glad if you would discuss it in the Journal, as I feel it would be of interest to fellow members.

R/		
Aminacrine Hydrochloride	.....	gr. 1/2
Glaxo Penicillin (Na Salt)	.....	100,000 units
Aq. Dest. ad.	.....	3i
Ft. gutt. pro. nar.		
Sig.	m.2 in each nostril q.q.h.	

It was found that precipitation occurred, which was assumed to be Monacrin. Greater dilution in no way affected the solubility. Finally, the Monacrin and Penicillin were dispensed in separate containers and the patient given instructions to use each every four hours, authority, firstly, being obtained from the doctor. I would be interested to find if this apparent incompatibility can be dispensed in any other manner.

—W.L.H. (Vic.).

This combination was tried out under a variety of conditions without success. Anion-cation incompatibilities of this type often occur at great dilution. Pharmaceutically an alternative is to suggest to the prescriber that an anionic antiseptic should be used with Sodium Penicillin. Antiseptics of this type are Nitromersol (Soluble) and Thiomersalate.

Paraldehyde Suspension.

R/		
Paraldehyde	.....	m. 60
Ext. Glycyrrh. Liq.	.....	m. 30
Aq. ad.	.....	m. 120
Mitte	8 fl. oz.	
Sig.	m. 120 ex aq., b.d.s., p.c.	

Although this medicament dispersed sufficiently for the pouring of a dose, it could have been better. Any suggestions?

—J.J. (Vic.).

If the vehicle is increased to 240 m. per dose and 60 m. per fluid ounce of Mucilage of Tragacanth added as a dispersing agent, the product is improved.

SCIENCE SECTION



EDITED BY A. T. S. SISSONS, B.Sc. F.P.S.

ARTICLES

- The Chairman's Address at the British Pharmaceutical Conference, September, 1953.
- Heparin and Dextran Sulphate.

BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE

London Meeting, September, 1953

THE CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

THE PHARMACIST AND THERAPEUTICS

By G. R. Boyes, L.M.S.S.A., B.Sc., Ph.C., F.R.I.C.

(By Airmail from Our London Correspondent.)

In this the Coronation year of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, we are assembled for the 90th meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference. This Conference was founded in 1863 through the foresight of men who had the scientific development of pharmacy at heart, and who doubtless realised the contributions which improvements in the practice of pharmacy could make to medicine. Three years previously Oliver Wendell Holmes, who was described by Sir William Osler as the most successful combination of physician and man of letters the world had ever seen, stated in an address to the Massachusetts Medical Society, "I firmly believe that if the whole materia medica as now used could be sunk to the bottom of the sea, it would be all the better for mankind and all the worse for the fishes." Although these words were spoken in America, it is obvious from the records of contemporary British practice that they could have been applied to the materia medica of this country, and that on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, pharmacy and medicine still retained much mediaeval empiricism. A major step towards the advancement of pharmacy was taken shortly before the first full meeting of this Conference, with the publication of the first British Pharmacopoeia. This volume replaced the pharmacopoeias previously issued separately by the Royal College of Physicians of London, Edinburgh and Dublin. It was the first attempt to secure, within the British Isles, uniformity of formulae and methods of preparation for commonly used drugs and galenicals, but its reception by pharmacists was not unattended with criticism. The hope expressed by Henry Deane, President of the Conference for that year, that members of Conference would do all they could to promote and ensure an improvement in every future edition has been abundantly realised. During the whole of its history this Conference has consistently provided opportunities for the exposition

and discussion of advances in pharmaceutical practice. The proceedings of the Science Sessions record many original investigations which have led to improvement in methods of preparation, formulation and analytical control of substances used in therapeutics, including those that are official in the British Pharmacopoeia and the British Pharmaceutical Codex. The eighth British Pharmacopoeia (1953) becomes official tomorrow (September 1), and a new edition of the Codex is expected to be published next year. It is appropriate at this stage in our history that we should review some of the contributions which have been made by pharmacy to the materia medica of today.

A memorandum issued in 1952 by the Pharmaceutical Society to the Minister of Health included the following among the services that should be rendered by the pharmaceutical department of a hospital:—

To obtain and be responsible for the nature and quality of drugs, medicinal preparations, dressings and chemicals such as antiseptics and reagents.

To make preparations to be used in dispensing prescriptions; to prepare other products for medical or surgical use; and to formulate preparations to meet special needs.

To dispense prescriptions. To assist in the development of new methods of treatment.

To assist in efficient prescribing by advising upon the nature and properties of substances used in medicines, and upon the selection of the most suitable substances and forms in which they should be prescribed.

This comprehensive definition of the functions of a pharmacist is applicable in whatever branch of the profession he is engaged. In general terms, then, it can be said that the primary function of the pharmacist is to provide the drugs, and preparations of drugs,

needed by doctors for the treatment of their patients. These drugs must be in a state of purity and of assured activity, and they must be in a form suitable for the appropriate method of administration, be it by mouth, by parenteral injection, by application to the skin or mucous membrane, or by insertion into one of the body cavities. To the pharmacist, therefore, belongs responsibility for the preparation and quality of drugs, and their formulation into preparations acceptable to both doctor and patient. In order to carry out these functions the pharmacist must obviously have a thorough knowledge of the chemical and physical properties of the substances comprised by the *materia medica* of today, he must be familiar with the analytical methods used in their assay, and be able to apply the principles involved in their formulation. To this must be added a basic knowledge of physiology and pharmacology to provide the background for advice upon prescribing.

The Materia Medica.

One of the outstanding features of pharmacy and medicine today is the wide use that is made of synthetic substances, and of isolated active principles, and the decline in the use of crude extracts, decoctions, infusions and tinctures made from drugs of the plant kingdom.

Although the use of synthetic compounds has increased greatly during the last 10 or 20 years, it had its origin before the beginning of the present century. At the meeting of this Conference held in Liverpool in 1896, the President, William Martindale, described the introduction of synthetic compounds into medicine as a novelty. Twenty years later, C. A. Hill in his address as President stated, "Notwithstanding the phenomenal extent to which synthetic drugs have come in to use, and despite the increased employment of active principles according as our knowledge of these progresses, the use of the drugs themselves in the form of galenical preparations (whether "standardised" or not) continues to a remarkable and perhaps significant extent. Furthermore, signs are not wanting of a growing recognition of the truth that many a drug and many a food may contain valuable properties not readily determined by chemical methods. It may be only slowly that the full value of a drug discovered empirically can be stated in scientific terms. Paradoxical as it may seem, the tendency today, with advancing scientific knowledge, is to recognise the failure of the active principle to replace the parent drug."

Since these words were spoken there has been a definite change from nature to the laboratory as the principal source of medicinal substances. This has effected changes in the practice of both therapeutics and pharmacy. The production and supply of simple vegetable drugs and their galenical preparations is a diminishing, though still important, part of pharmaceutical work. The pharmacist in retail practice has less opportunity than had his predecessors of a generation ago to exercise his skill in compounding. He is called upon to an ever-increasing extent to supply drugs which, by the very nature of the processes involved in their production, must reach him in a state ready to be administered. The production of insulin, the manufacture of the antibiotics, the sulphonamides, the derivatives of barbituric acid, the sex hormones and the antihistamine drugs, to quote but a few examples, are essentially large-scale operations suitable only for specially-constructed plant. Compressed tablets, capsules and sterile solutions for injection, which together constitute a large part of dispensed medicines, are prepared more economically on the large manufacturing scale than at the dispensing counter.

Some idea of the growth and magnitude of the industry engaged in the production of synthetic chemicals and isolated principles and of its importance to the life and health of the nation, can be gained from

figures published in the *Final Report of the Census of Production for Drugs and Pharmaceutical Preparations for the year 1948*. During the 10 years preceding the year of the Census the number of persons employed in Britain in the industry almost doubled, and its gross output expressed in terms of value more than trebled. The output of aspirin in all forms rose from about 2 million lb. to 5½ million lb. The production of insulin increased to six times the pre-war amount to a total of 4½ million units per annum. In 1948 the production of barbituric acid and its derivatives amounted to 90,000 lb.; the annual production of sulphonamides was approximately 890,000 lb. The production of chloral hydrate was nearly 250,000 lb., and of sex hormones 25,000 oz. Since 1948 there has been a continuous increase of production in volume as well as in value. The production of penicillin, which was only at the rate of 190 mega units per week in 1948, had risen to almost 1300 mega units per week by 1952. In that period, too, new drugs such as streptomycin, p-aminosalicylic acid and the histamine antagonists have all added to the total production which is now valued at approximately £90 million per annum. Of this amount approximately one-third is exported overseas.

Informative though these figures are, cold statistics can convey but little impression of the contribution made by pharmacy—using the term in its widest sense—to the national welfare, the advancement of medical science and the saving of human life. That this contribution has been considerable will not be disputed, but it is revealed in its true perspective only when it is examined in the light of those other factors which have influenced medical progress during recent years, and the advances in other branches of scientific endeavour which have been adapted to the requirements of the pharmaceutical laboratory.

On the one hand there has been the awakening of the national conscience to the need for the prevention of disease, and the care of the sick, reflected in the gradual evolution of the Public Health Service, and in particular in the National Health Insurance Act of 1911, and the National Health Service Act of 1946. On the other hand, there has been the increasing attention given to research, in clinical medicine and pharmacology, and within the pharmaceutical industry itself. Planned and organised research for the development of new products and the improvement of old ones is now accepted as essential to the progress of pharmacy. Not only do manufacturers examine and attempt to develop discoveries made in their own laboratories, but they must follow very closely the discoveries made by workers in academic centres, and always be ready to adapt their methods and their products to the ever-advancing flow of knowledge. The result is that the pharmaceutical industry today occupies a unique and essential position in regard to the development of new remedies and the discovery of new therapeutic uses for previously known compounds. As a result many of the substances now official in the British Pharmacopoeia, and many more included in the British Pharmaceutical Codex, had their origin in the research laboratories of manufacturing pharmaceutical houses.

This position has been achieved by the application of knowledge gained in the sciences of chemistry, physics, pharmacology and biology to the design of new drugs and the manufacture of pharmaceutical preparations. Forty or fifty years ago almost the only methods employed by pharmacists for making the products needed for dispensing prescriptions were those of maceration or percolation with alcohol and water, decoction, concentration by evaporation and crystallisation. For the most part, reliance was placed on simple methods of volumetric and gravimetric analysis, the determination of melting point, or boiling point, refractive index and specific gravity as guides to purity and activity. Many galenicals were evaluated on their content of total extractive. The adaptation of scientific

methods including fractional precipitation, chromatographic separation, molecular distillation, potentiometry, polarography, spectrophotometry, biological assay and microbiological assay has provided the tools with which the weapons of modern therapeutics have been fashioned.

Organic Syntheses.

The discovery of a new drug with specific therapeutic properties is seldom due to mere chance circumstances, but is often the result of carefully planned and co-ordinated research to which organic chemists, biochemists, pharmacologists, physicians and pharmacists have all contributed. This research may consist of the routine "screening" of the biological properties of a series of known compounds, or it may be a deliberate attempt to build molecules of predictable pharmacological action. In order to achieve the desired end it is often necessary to examine scores, or probably hundreds, of compounds in order to determine whether the required pharmacological properties are present. Some guidance in the search for new compounds can be obtained from the systematic examination of naturally-occurring substances and synthetic compounds of known pharmacological properties and known chemical structure. This will yield information regarding the relationship of chemical structure to pharmacological action. A specific type of biological action is usually associated with a particular basic molecular structure. This activity can be quantitatively modified by alterations of chemical structure which do not involve alterations to the basic configuration. The preparation of a series of homologous compounds or derivatives based on the original primary structure, and a quantitative study of their biological properties, must be undertaken in order to find one which possesses a high degree of specific biological activity with only a minimum of unwanted or toxic side effects.

Studies of this type have been used in the development of derivatives of barbituric acid, synthetic oestrogens and other sex hormones, histamine antagonists, sulphonamides, sulphones, antimalarial drugs, neuro-muscular blocking agents, ganglionic blocking agents, analgesics and local anaesthetics.

It is inevitable that the synthetic pathway to the development of new drugs leads to the production of many compounds which have qualitatively similar pharmacological properties, and are used for the same purpose. The doctor is thus able to choose from among a wide range of compounds.

Vegetable Materia Medica.

It must not be inferred that vegetable materia medica have been entirely supplanted by the synthetic products of the chemical laboratory. Some examples can be quoted to show that this is far from being the case. There has recently been a revival of interest in the peripheral vasodilator action of preparations of *Veratrum viride* as a means of treating hypertension, and in the dilator effect on the coronary vessels of preparations of *Ammi visnaga* for the relief of angina of effort. These possible clinical applications have led to systematic chemical and pharmacological examination of the constituents of these two drugs, resulting in the case of *Veratrum viride* in the preparation of a stable extract, and, in the case of *Ammi visnaga*, in the isolation of khellin. Liquorice has assumed an importance above that of a demulcent and sweetening agent by the discovery that glycyrrhizinic acid has a pharmacological action on salt and water metabolism closely simulating that of deoxycortone. Many crude vegetable drugs find their way into commerce in large quantities. Senna, aloe, podophyllum, cascara and rhubarb are still extensively prescribed as purgatives. Volatile oils and fixed oils from plant sources are used in many pharmaceutical preparations. We are still dependent upon opium for supplies of morphine and related alkaloids, on cinchona for supplies of quinine,

on ipecacuanha for emetine, on digitalis for cardiac glycosides, on nux vomica for strychnine, on belladonna for atropine, and on ergot for ergometrine. Some of these strongholds are already being assailed by the synthetic organic chemist. The synthesis of morphine on a laboratory bench scale has recently been accomplished, and in the case of quinine, atropine and morphine, synthetic alternatives possessing some of the pharmacological properties of the natural alkaloids are available. Studies now in progress on the biogenesis of alkaloids and other plant constituents may be expected to point the way to increasing the yield of these naturally-occurring medicinal agents.

The industrial adaptation of the metabolic activities of some micro-organisms has made these members of the plant kingdom important contributors to the materia medica. Moulds and fungi grown under controlled conditions in suitable culture media produce the antibiotics penicillin, streptomycin, aureomycin, terramycin and some others; *Aspergillus niger* grown in a medium containing molasses produces citric acid; cyanocobalamin is produced together with streptomycin as a metabolic product of *Streptomyces griseus*; a microbiological transformation of steroids using *Rhizopus nigricans* has greatly simplified the synthesis of cortisone, and an exo-cellular enzyme produced by the coccus *Leuconostoc mesenteroides* during its growth on a medium containing sucrose is used for the production of the polysaccharide dextran.

Animal Materia Medica.

Substances developed in the animal body—hormones, antitoxins, human blood and plasma—are important items of materia medica. The British Pharmacopoeia describes methods for the preparation of several derivatives of human blood, and defines tests for their identification and assay. The production of antitoxins contained in the serum of animals has long been a specialised part of pharmaceutical enterprise. Interest in some of the antitoxins may be renewed, in view of the prevalence of strains of bacteria resistant to the commonly used antibiotics and chemotherapeutic compounds.

Of the hormones produced by endocrine glands, cortisone and corticotrophin have assumed great importance in therapeutics, although their production in this country is not yet large enough to satisfy all requirements. Cortisone is one of many steroids secreted by the cortex of the adrenal gland. The story of its isolation, chemical characterisation and synthesis is one of the most fascinating themes of modern organic chemistry. The first synthesis from deoxycholic acid was a long and complicated process involving 32 stages. The total synthesis from o-toluidine involved 48 stages. Sterols obtained from vegetable sources—stigmasterol, diosgenin, sarmenogenin and hecogenin—have been investigated as alternative starting materials with a view to shortening the synthesis and increasing the yield of cortisone. Progress along the pathway towards increased production on a commercial scale has been considerably eased by two important recent developments. The first is a method of biosynthesis in which minced adrenal glands are incubated under aerobic conditions with synthetic deoxycortone, and the second is the microbiological transformation of steroids using *Rhizopus nigricans* to which reference has already been made.

Corticotrophin (adrenocorticotrophic hormone or A.C.T.H.) is obtained from the anterior lobe of the pituitary gland of pigs, cattle and sheep. Despite the inherent difficulties of the process of extracting the active principle from the glands, considerable progress has been made towards its isolation in pure condition. From pig pituitary glands, a highly active fraction has been obtained by extraction with glacial acetic acid, followed by fractionation with ether and acetone, adsorption on oxycellulose, digestion with pepsin and

lyophilisation. This fraction has been termed corticotrophin B. Another product, also of high potency, has been produced from sheep pituitary glands by fractionation of an acid-acetone extract. This fraction has been termed Preparation E. These two preparations differ from one another, and from concentrates of corticotrophin previously described, in their chemical and physical properties. If, as indeed may be the case, either of these substances proves to be a single chemical entity, greater exactitude will be given to the pharmacological and clinical evaluation of the adrenocorticotrophic hormone.

It is just 30 years since the first commercially produced injections of insulin were made available to diabetic patients in Great Britain. In the intervening years much research has been directed to so modify the original soluble insulin as to prolong its action in the body after injection, with the object of controlling the level of blood sugar in patients with diabetes mellitus by a single daily injection. Successive steps towards the achievement of this objective have been protamine insulin, protamine zinc insulin and globin insulin. During the last few years, workers in several laboratories have reinvestigated the effect of zinc ions on the crystallisation of insulin at different pH ranges and in the presence of different buffer salts. One outcome of these studies was the crystalline protamine zinc insulin compound at first called N.P.H., to which the approved name Isophane Insulin has been given. This preparation is used in neutral suspension containing sodium phosphate as the buffering agent.

The most recent development has resulted from the discovery that if an acetate buffer is substituted for the phosphate or citrate buffer previously used for making insulin suspensions, it is possible to precipitate the insulin over a range of pH approximating to that of body fluids by the addition of an amount of zinc equivalent to that present in protamine zinc insulin (0.02 mg./10 units). In the absence of citrate or phosphate ions the physical character and the solubility of the zinc insulin compounds depends upon the pH of the solution from which it is precipitated. By appropriate modification of the conditions it is possible to precipitate zinc insulin compounds in either amorphous or crystalline forms, containing more zinc in chemical union than is present in soluble crystalline insulin. The two physical forms of the insulin zinc compound differ somewhat in their hypoglycaemic action; that of the crystalline form is much more prolonged than that of soluble (unmodified) insulin, whereas the amorphous form has a relatively rapid action not unlike that of soluble insulin.

The ideal preparation of insulin for the treatment of diabetes mellitus would be one that is relatively rapid in its effect on absorbed glucose, constant in its action and of sufficiently long duration to enable the blood sugar to be maintained within normal limits by one single daily injection; it should not produce any form of local reaction. The mixture of the amorphous and crystalline zinc compounds suspended in acetate buffer, to which the approved name insulin zinc suspension has been given, may come very close to this conception of the ideal, because it combines rapidity of action with prolongation of effect, and is free from foreign protein.

Three years after the introduction of insulin, therapeutics registered another significant and life-saving advance in the discovery of the effectiveness of raw liver in the treatment of pernicious anaemia. It was not long before extracts containing the active substance or substances were produced, but progress in this field was hampered by lack of knowledge concerning the identity and nature of these active substances and by the fact that there was no laboratory method by which the activity of liver extracts could be assessed—the sole criterion was the clinical response of patients suffering from pernicious anaemia. Attempts to separate

clinically active material from inert matter were numerous; for the most part they followed traditional lines of extraction with solvents, enzymatic digestion, precipitation of inert matter with heavy metals or by selective solvents, and charcoal adsorption followed by elution. Gradually it became possible to prepare solutions for injection in which the active material was presented in relatively high concentration, although these still contained considerable proportions of inert matter. The isolation of folic acid from liver and other sources led to the conclusion that this substance was the anti-pernicious anaemia factor, a conclusion subsequently shown on clinical evidence to be erroneous.

It was the application of chromatographic methods of separation and the development of a microbiological method of assay that provided the means for the isolation of the substance now called cyanocobalamin, in a yield of less than 1 g. from 4 tons of liver. The discovery that cyanocobalamin is produced by *Streptomyces griseus* as a metabolite together with streptomycin opened up a new source for commercial production in greater quantity and at less cost.

Analytical Control.

Chemical Investigation.

For a substance to be suitable for use in therapeutics it is essential that its pharmacological and therapeutic activity must not vary from batch to batch. During the development of a synthetic compound, or the purification of an active principle extracted from its natural source, much information is gained about its physical and chemical characters—solubility, melting point or boiling point, specific rotation, refractive index—and from data of this type it is possible to draw up specifications of characters and tests by which the substance can be identified and quantitatively analysed.

The separation of active constituents from their natural sources and the purification and characterisation of synthetic organic chemicals have been greatly assisted by refinements in methods of chemical and physical analysis. Many of the newer techniques involve the use of costly physical instruments, with the result that the analytical control of the purity of medicinal substances is rapidly becoming the work of the specialist, and the capital expenditure needed to install this modern equipment in a laboratory reaches astronomical amounts. Among the newer techniques which have been employed in the development of new preparations and in the assay of old ones are spectrophotometry, chromatography and polarography.

Absorption spectrophotometry finds wide application for the characterisation of pharmaceutical substances, and for determining their purity and concentration in solution. It is used for the determination of vitamin A, cyanocobalamin, calciferol, some sex hormones, chloramphenicol, many alkaloids and antihistamine drugs.

Absorption in the infra-red region is now assuming importance both for qualitative and quantitative analyses and for providing information about chemical constitution. It was used, for example, in elucidating the chemical structure of cyanocobalamin and of the penicillins.

Two modifications of spectrophotographic methods, namely flame photometry and the "porous-cup" technique, have been applied to the determination of lithium, potassium, iron, silicon, magnesium and other metallic ions in pharmaceutical preparations, and appear to give results of sufficient accuracy to justify their further use.

Chromatography has greatly assisted the isolation and purification of many of the antibiotics. It has provided methods for the separation of *nor*-adrenaline from adrenaline; for the fractionation of digitoxin from admixture with other digitalis glycosides and aglycones. Application of this method to the separation of ergot

alkaloids, and to the assay of ergometrine and ergometrine in mixtures, has supplied information about the changes which take place in Injection of Ergometrine Maleate on storage. It has also provided satisfactory methods for the determination of the hyoscyne in solanaceous drugs and of strychnine in nux vomica.

The use of a suitable ion exchange resin as the adsorbing column makes it possible to separate the salts of weak organic bases into their component ions. This method has been used for the determination of some alkaloids and local anaesthetics.

Polarography gives satisfactory results in the routine assay of morphine, diamorphine, strychnine and riboflavin contained in injection solutions, tablets, and some galenical preparations. It may also be used for the assay of trace metals in pharmaceutical preparations, and for the determination of iron, arsenic and antimony in their compounds. A polarographic method for the determination of the purity of insulin has been described, and polarographic determination of chloramphenicol in solution buffered at pH4 is said to give results which agree with those obtained by biological assay.

Biological Tests.

It is possible to guarantee a constant degree of pharmacological activity from a given weight of most drugs by rigid control of chemical composition and physical characteristics. There are, however, some drugs, mostly of biological origin, which cannot be reduced to a state of uniform chemical purity, and in which the proportion of active substance to inert matter is liable to vary in different preparations. The biological activity of these substances cannot be precisely predicted from chemical and physical properties, and must be controlled by biological assay, in which the response of animals to doses of the substance is compared with the response of a similar group of animals to doses of a standard preparation of the same substance. It is an essential condition of such assays that tests with the sample under examination and with the standard preparation should be carried out at the same time and under identically comparable conditions. Biological assay is required for about 30 substances of the British Pharmacopoeia. A laboratory, properly staffed and equipped, where biological assays can be carried out, is therefore an essential auxiliary to manufacturing pharmaceutical plants.

When a new substance is being developed and examined in order to assess its possible use as a therapeutic agent, biological tests are of value, in conjunction with chemical and physical methods as an indication of progressive stages in the isolation and purification of the new substance. Methods of biological assay used in conjunction with chromatography have facilitated the purification of the adrenocorticotrophic hormone, and the isolation and characterisation of the hormones present in adrenal cortex extract. In the case of the former, the method is based on the depletion of ascorbic acid from the adrenal glands of rats after removal of the anterior pituitary gland. A microbiological assay, using radioactive isotopes, which measured the ratio of sodium and potassium excreted in the urine of adrenalectomised rats following injection of adrenal cortex extract, combined with paper chromatography, has led to the separation of a new crystalline steroid possessing a high degree of activity on electrolyte metabolism.

Before any new substance can be released for clinical use the pharmacological examination must extend beyond the demonstration of its specific biological activity *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Its rate of absorption, distribution through the body tissues and excretion must be investigated. Information must be obtained concerning its therapeutic index (that is to say the ratio of effective dose to toxic dose), its chronic and

acute toxicities, its action on blood pressure, respiration, the central nervous system, the heart, blood, kidney and liver. If the drug is one that is intended to be used for external application its local effects on the skin and mucous membranes must be studied to ascertain whether it causes irritation and sensitisation. If the substance is shown to have a desirable therapeutic property, it must be free from serious side effects before it can be considered acceptable for therapeutic use.

Whether use is made of the whole intact animal, pieces of animal tissue or bacterial cultures as the test object, all methods of biological assay have one feature in common—that of individual variability. It is therefore necessary to invoke the assistance of statisticians in order to assess the accuracy of the results, and, indeed, to plan the experiments so that reliable information may be obtained with a minimum expenditure of labour and materials. With proper planning of the experiment and appropriate mathematical treatment of the results, biological assay is capable of ensuring uniformity of action between different preparations of the same substance within comparatively small limits of error.

The Formula.

A most important part of the pharmacist's work is the formulation of medicinal substances into preparations suitable for administration. It is here that pharmacy is seen both as a science and an art. A science because proper formulation must be based on a knowledge of the physical, chemical and pharmacological properties of the substances to be compounded, and an art because it requires the exercise of skill based on experience. Often this part of the pharmacist's work is taken for granted, and it is too little realised that the preparation of a compressed tablet, solution or suspension for injection, an ointment, emulsion or suppository, for example, is possible only after considerable laboratory research. The discussions on the subject of pharmaceutical formulation at recent meetings of the Conference will be still fresh in your memories, but it may be appropriate to recapitulate some of the fundamental principles.

The aim of formulation must be to present a drug in a form in which it exhibits its characteristic properties, is safe and convenient to use, and stable for a reasonable period of time under the prevailing climatic conditions.

During the last decade, the practice of pharmacy has been dominated by the need for supplying active preparations of the antibiotics, penicillin, streptomycin, chloramphenicol, and, more recently, aureomycin and terramycin. The dispensing of penicillin solutions and suspensions for parenteral use, and the formulation of creams and ointments for external application, brought into prominence the necessity for observing strict asepsis in manipulation, and revealed numerous incompatibilities which had to be overcome before satisfactory formulation was accomplished. The study and solution of these problems has formed the basis of a number of papers contributed to the Science Sessions of this Conference. The survey of the pharmacy of antibiotics presented at our Symposium Session last year gave an indication of the complexity of these problems and the manner of their solution.

The problems presented by the formulation of the antibiotics are special examples of problems incidental to the formulation of preparations of any drug for therapeutic use, and their satisfactory solution is reached by the application of the same general principles. In the design of preparations intended for administration by mouth, the effect of saliva, the gastric juice and the pancreatic secretion must be taken into consideration, so also must the extent and manner of absorption and excretion of the drug. Palatability and aesthetic appearance are necessary, but are secondary

in importance to the stability of the drug in solution or suspension.

The formulation of preparations for parenteral injection presupposes a knowledge of the solubility of the drug in Water for Injection or other solvent, the pH of the solution, the stability of the drug on storage, and on sterilisation, its compatibility with bactericidal compounds which may be used as preservatives, and with sodium chloride or other electrolyte which may be used to render the solution isotonic. Pain on injection must be avoided, and solutions intended for intravenous injection must not contain pyrogens.

In the preparation of suspensions for intramuscular injection, consideration must be given to those factors which influence the rate of absorption of the drug from the site of injection—particle size, viscosity of the medium, or the presence of an anion radical which will delay the absorption or excretion of the drug.

In the formulation of ointments and creams for external application it is necessary to know whether the drug is intended to pass through the layers of skin or to remain unabsorbed on the surface.

The formulation of tablets is intimately linked with the rate of disintegration of tablets in the alimentary tract—a matter of great importance if the *pilula perpetua* of Pereira is not to find its counterpart in modern medication.

The Clinical Trial.

When a drug has emerged from the scrutiny of pharmacological examination with an indication that it possesses some property that may have practical application in the treatment of disease, and has been formulated into a form suitable for administration, there arises the necessity for testing it on human patients. Ideally every new drug should be submitted to controlled and impartial trial in which its effects on a disease process are carefully observed and the results compared with those of other forms of treatment previously in use for that disease. This method has not always been followed in the past; indeed, it has often not been possible to adopt it. Had it been employed many of the alleged remedies of bygone years would never have seen the light of day. As it is, too many of them have persisted to the present time because of the absence of incontrovertible evidence of their worthlessness. To draw conclusions from insufficient data will lead to erroneous deductions. This error does not belong entirely to a past era. Even today claims for therapeutic activity are sometimes based on clinical impressions derived from the observation of one or two patients only!

Ideally the clinical trial should follow the general principle of all biological assays in that it must be carried out on a sufficiently large number of patients, and must provide for an adequate series of controls, whenever this can be done without endangering the lives or well-being of patients. If withholding treatment from a patient would mean the difference between survival and death, then clearly no control is possible, other than that supplied by the doctors' clinical impressions, or by the case records of a similar group of patients treated by other methods.

Controlled clinical trials have their greatest usefulness when it is possible to measure some biochemical or pathological change brought about in response to the administration of the drug, e.g., the blood sugar response to the injection of insulin, the rise in the number of red blood-cells in response to the injection of liver extract or of vitamin B₁₂, the healing of the lesions of pulmonary tuberculosis shown in X-ray photographs during treatment with streptomycin, and the disappearance of parasites from the blood of malaria-infected patients.

By whatever method the clinical evaluation of a drug is attempted, the process requires careful planning, critical examination of the progress of the patients,

and systematic recording of the results. It should be conducted by a team of investigators which should include a physician, a biochemist, a pharmacist, and preferably also a statistician. This is essentially the province of the physician, but it is one in which the pharmacist, particularly the hospital pharmacist, can and should collaborate. From it will come the final proof of the successful outcome of the chemical, biological and pharmaceutical research that has preceded it.

Not only do trials on human subjects make it possible to assess the value of a drug in the prevention or treatment of disease, and also to determine the effective dose range, but they reveal side-effects such as nausea, vomiting, headache, giddiness, skin rashes, tinnitus and other symptoms which cannot be detected from animal experiments.

The quantitative evaluation of drugs in man is usually difficult because it is not often possible to obtain continuous and objective records of the drug effect. Furthermore, the number of subjects, the number of observations and the range of doses that can be used are all necessarily limited. Where quantitative methods have been devised they have sometimes revealed that the relative potencies of the members of a group of compounds having qualitatively similar pharmacological actions do not correspond to the deductions made from the results of tests on animals. This is true, for example, of the synthetic oestrogens and of the synthetic muscle relaxants, the relative potencies of which in man differ from their relative potencies in rats. Quantitative methods have been adapted successfully to the study of the antihistamine drugs and the synthetic analgesics of the methadone type.

International Aspects.

Many of the substances and methods mentioned in the foregoing brief survey had their origin in countries outside Great Britain. Similarly, many of the discoveries made in our islands have proved of benefit in the relief of human suffering in all parts of the world. Pharmacy, like other sciences, knows no national boundaries. Its discoveries and methods are applicable the world over. Its difficulties are common to all those who practise it wherever they may be. There is obvious need for the closest collaboration and exchange of information by pharmacists of all nations. Already there is much evidence of the growing recognition of this need. In a world which is rapidly shrinking with the speed of modern travel, we cannot afford to ignore it. The presence in this country during the past summer, and at this Conference, of pharmacists from the Commonwealth and the Dominions, as well as from a number of other countries, will do much to foster this collaboration. The International Pharmaceutical Federation, the Franco-British Pharmaceutical Commission, the International Conference on Military Medicine and Pharmacy, and the International Pharmacy Students' Federation, all provide opportunities for the exchange of views between pharmacists of different nationalities. The invitation given to the International Pharmaceutical Federation to meet in Great Britain during 1955 is a welcome step towards the greater participation of British pharmacists in pharmaceutical affairs beyond the shores of our own islands.

The World Health Organisation is today taking a greater interest in matters of purely pharmaceutical importance. The necessity for international agreement on standard preparations for use in biological assay has been recognised for many years, and has been met by the work of the Permanent Commission on Biological Standardisation set up under the Health Organisation of the League of Nations, and now the World Health Organisation. It is over 50 years since the advantages of using the same name for the same preparation throughout the world were first enunciated at an international conference, but only within the past two or

three years has a serious effort to secure such uniformity been made by the establishment of a list of international non-proprietary names for several hundred substances. It is to be hoped that the opposition to this list which has recently arisen in America will not be allowed to vitiate the success of this important contribution to saner pharmacy. In an attempt to extend international agreement on standards for drugs and pharmaceutical preparations, the International Pharmacopoeia has been produced by the World Health Organisation Expert Committee on the Unification of Pharmacopoeias. The British Pharmaceutical Conference has reason to be proud of the fact that one of its Vice-Chairmen, Dr. C. H. Hampshire, C.M.G., who was Chairman of our meeting in London in 1933, was Chairman of this Expert Committee, and directed the labours of those who produced this very material evidence of international pharmaceutical collaboration.

The Pharmacist's Responsibility.

In whatever capacity the pharmacist is engaged, be it in the manufacturing laboratory, in the pharmaceutical department of a hospital, or in retail business, he or she has a position of great responsibility in regard to the life and health of the community. Under the National Health Service, the pharmacist-contractors of Great Britain dispense more than 200 million prescriptions each year. To this must be added the not inconsiderable number of prescriptions dispensed by hospital pharmacists for both in-patients and out-patients. Medicines are made for the sick, and the pharmacist's ultimate responsibility is to the patient. Every stage in the preparation of a medicine, from the manufacturing laboratory to the dispensing counter, is subject to rigid control—and by control in this context is meant something much more than the analytical control referred to earlier in this Address. It means constant vigilance, checking and cross checking, to avoid errors in manufacturing, compounding and dispensing; errors that might endanger the lives of countless numbers of people if they were perpetrated. Today, although the emphasis is passing from the bottle of medicine to the compressed tablet, capsule and injection solution, and individual prescriptions have been largely replaced by the standard preparations of the British Pharmaceutical Codex and the National Formulary, or by the finished products of manufacturers, the knowledge of the chemistry and pharmacology of drugs required by the pharmacist is greater than ever it was at any previous time in our history. As the number of highly potent drugs increases, the pharmacist must be ever more vigilant, and his knowledge must keep pace with modern developments.

To equip him to discharge these responsibilities the pharmacist in embryo must undergo a course of training in a recognised teaching institution embracing the basic natural sciences and the specialised subjects of pharmaceuticals, pharmaceutical chemistry, pharmacognosy, physiology and pharmacology, and forensic pharmacy. In addition, he must serve a period of articulated pupilage to gain an insight into the practice of pharmacy before he is admitted to the register. Thus the pharmacist acquires a store of knowledge, both academic and practical, which is of the greatest value when it is allied to the knowledge of the physician. Too often in the past has pharmacy been regarded (even by pharmacists themselves) as the mere handmaid of medicine. Rather should it be said that pharmacy is co-partner with medicine, with equal responsibilities, and with equal opportunities to serve the public. Pharmacy and medicine are, in fact, interdependent, and together fulfil vitally important functions in the health services of the country.

During the lifetime of this Conference therapeutics has emerged from the darkness of empiricism into the

dawning light of an exact science. Pharmacists can be proud of the part which they have played in bringing about that advance, and they can be prouder still of their responsibilities to further it in the future.

HEPARIN AND DEXTRAN SULPHATE

From "Recent Research Reviews," by H. S. Grainger in
The Export Review.

Heparin has been shown to consist of a polysulphuric ester of mucoitin,¹ a polymer of glucuronic acid and glucosamine. It is not homogeneous, but consists of a mixture of mono, di- and tri-sulphuric acid esters, having an average molecular weight of 17,000. The anticoagulant action of heparin is considered to be due to its forming complexes with fibrinogen and other clotting proteins. The sulphuric esters of other polysaccharides of high molecular weight have also been shown to have some heparinlike activity (e.g., starch, cellulose, pectic acid and alginic acid) and this similarity of action has suggested that their anticoagulant properties are due to the electro-negative charges carried by the ester sulphate which give them high reactivity with molecules of opposite charge, such as proteins. Some, however, cause precipitation of proteins and agglutination *in vivo* and are, therefore, useless for clinical purposes.

Recently sulphuric esters of a polysaccharide, dextran have been produced by Ricketts.² It will be known that dextran is a glucose polymer consisting of branching chains of glucose units linked through 1:6 α glucoside linkages. It is produced by bacterial action on dextrose solutions and certain fractions are used as plasma substitutes. Early work on sulphuric esters of polysaccharides suggested that the coagulating property is related to molecular size and that if a fraction of sufficiently small molecular weight could be obtained it may be useful clinically in place of the expensive natural heparin. However, Ingelman³ showed that inulin sulphate, which is of smaller molecular weight than the smallest dextran sulphate, showed higher toxicity in this respect. K. W. Walton⁴ has investigated the reactions between dextran sulphates of various sizes and fibrinogen and points out that two kinds of reaction may occur. There may be true salt formation in which case irreversible flocculation occurs or there may be a loose coacervate formation due to the shape and size of the micels. The type of reaction is determined by conditions of temperature, pH, electrolyte and colloid concentrations. These coacervates may be precipitated as visible clots, but may be redissolved in calcium chloride solution and the original components separated. At reactions more acid than the iso-electric point of the proteins salt formation takes place between the acid sulphate groups and the basic amino groups. Experiments at various pH values and with different amounts of protein present indicate that with heparin and with some dextran sulphates this never occurs, but only the coacervate formation. With larger dextran sulphates true flocculation was shown to be possible. The authors stress the importance of distinguishing between molecular weight and molecular size, since the linkage and disposition of units in the micel may be an important factor in determining the type reaction which occurs. They point out that any new polysaccharide esters should be investigated for similarity of behaviour with the large molecular weight dextran sulphates before being administered to man. The smaller molecular weight dextran sulphates in the range 7000 to 8000 appear to be non-toxic and show anticoagulant properties comparable to that of heparin. For clinical use, however, they need to be screened for freedom from "contamination" by high molecular weight fractions.

Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand Sydney Conference

20th Australasian Conference—August 11-20, 1953

LIST OF DELEGATES

New Zealand.

Cameron, D. (unable to attend) Prince, E. (unable to attend)

Australian Capital Territory.

Jewkes, G. G.

Queensland.

Chalmers, Miss E. F. Lenehan, W. A.
Chater, A. B. Martin, R. V. S.
Elliott, Miss G. Nolan, G.
Greig, R. S. F. Wells, G. R.

Victoria.

Allen, T. G. Kent, F. C.
Anderson, Miss A. K. Lee, F. N.
Braithwaite, H. A. Long, L.
Braithwaite, Miss E. W. MacGillivray, Miss I. M. J.
Caird, Miss J. M. Moore, E. A. O.
Carter, Mrs. Ross Morieson, V. G.
Corn, Miss N. Nye, E. E.
Cossar, N. C. Richards, J. I.
Denton, Miss V. Scott, E.
Evans, T. B. Smalley, Miss F.
Hamon, L. Taylor, C. P. A.
Holland, Miss V. Thompson, I. J.
Iliffe, W. R. Thompson, Mrs. I. J.
Keith, N. P. Treleaven, G. K.
Kelly, Miss V. Weaver, Miss M.

Tasmania.

Crisp, D. R. Palfreyman, L. W.
Dawson, Mrs. J.

South Australia.

Collyer, H. G. Martin, H. C.
Cotterell, Walter C. McCook, Mrs. D. E. P.
Gray, R. C. Porter, K. S.
Holloway, A. C. Russell, A. A.
Lipsham, E. F. Scott, G. K. F.
Maloney, Mrs. L. J.

Western Australia.

Allan, T. D. H. Dallimore, G. H.
Allan, G. D. T. Fitch, H. D.
Avenell, F. W. Nicholas, E. J.

New South Wales.

Anderson, Miss O. Leece, R. S.
Baldwin, P. J. Legg, Miss K. M.
Belcher, P. D. Leggo, C. V.
Belinfante, Miss A. Little, J.
Benjamin, G. G. Mackay, Miss S.
Bowie, J. W. McCallum, R. P. G.
Bradford, C. D. McCarron, Miss I.
Bradley, B. M. Miller, Miss M.
Bryant, Miss A. M. Moore, Mrs. L.
Buchanan, D. Orr, N. V.
Campbell, D. W. Oswald, K. G.
Campbell, Mrs. S. Palmi, Miss E.
Carter, Mrs. B. Peak, A. E.
Cartwright, K. A. Pethebridge, K. L.
Chiltin, Miss K. Pinerua, W. F.
Collins, Mrs. A. P. Plunkett, J. F.
Conolly, A. E. Polson, Miss M.
Cosgrave, P. E. Powell, K. H.
Cox, H. D. B. Read, H. W.
Curry, Mrs. C. Sapsford, W. G.
Curtis, Mrs. S. A. Schaeffer, B.
Cutler, W. R. Shineberg, J.
DeFina, A. J. Shineberg, Mrs. J.
Dobbie, A. A. Simpson, G. C.
Dunn, D. Sperling, Mrs. S.
Fairfax, Mrs. D. Stormon, J. L.
Fairfax, J. Strang, R. K.
Fegent, B. G. Sweeney, Miss J.
Feller, R. W. Thomas, K. E.
Fraser, A. C. Townley, J. L.
Hall, E. G. Webber, Mrs. E.
Harding, Miss D. West, A. W.
Janes, Miss P. Wilkinson, W. J.
Jordan, K. W. Winterton, A. F.
Killip, D. J. Wright, S. E.
Larkin, E. G. Wright, Mrs. S. E.
Latham, Miss I. J. Zobel, Mrs. B.

New South Wales Associates.

Belcher, Mrs. P. D. Leggo, Mrs. O. C. V.
Bradley, Mrs. B. M. Little, Mrs. J.
Cartwright, Mrs. K. A. Petherbridge, Mrs. K. L.
Conolly, Mrs. A. E. Pinerua, Mrs. W. F.
Conolly, Miss L. Plunkett, Mrs. J. F.
Cosgrave, Mrs. P. E. Powell, Mrs. K. H.
Cutler, Mrs. W. R. Read, Mrs. H. W.
DeFina, Mrs. A. J. Simpson, Mrs. G. C.
Dunn, Mrs. D. Thomas, Mrs. K. E.
Fegent, Mrs. B. G. Townley, Mrs. J. L.
Fraser, Mrs. A. C. West, Mrs. A. W.
Hall, Mrs. E. G.

Twentieth Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference

The Official Opening

Impressive Scene in the Great Hall, University of Sydney

The Inaugural Session of the Twentieth Australasian Conference took place in the Great Hall of the University of Sydney on August 11 at 8 p.m.

The ceremony, though brief, was dignified and impressive.

For the first time in its history the Association was honoured in having the Governor of the State in which the Conference was held present to open proceedings.

Prior to the commencement of the ceremony, the President and member of the Executive of the Association received His Excellency, Sir John Northcott, Governor of New South Wales, in the Senate Room, and after introductions processed with University dignitaries, distinguished guests and Federal representatives of the official pharmaceutical organisations to seats on the dais in the Great Hall.

Distinguished guests on the dais included the Honourable the Minister of Health for N.S.W. (Mr. M. O'Sullivan), the Chancellor (Professor Sir Charles Bickerton Blackburn), the Acting Vice-Chancellor (Professor Trendall), and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Dr. McDonald) of the University of Sydney.

After the official opening of Conference, His Excellency the Governor, the Retiring President of the Association, Mr. W. R. Cutler, addressed the delegates and inducted the President-Elect, Mr. Walter C. Cotterell, into the Chair.

A tape recording was made of the whole of the proceedings, a verbatim report of which is reproduced hereunder:

OPENING REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT, Mr. W. R. CUTLER.

Your Excellency, Mr. Chancellor, the Right Honourable the Minister for Health, distinguished guests, distinguished colleagues of our kindred professions, visitors from interstate, ladies and gentlemen—

It is my duty to night, and indeed a privilege, on behalf of the Executive and members of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand, to extend a hearty welcome to all present.

To Your Excellency, it is my great privilege to tell you how honoured our Association is that you not only have been pleased to be present with us tonight, but have kindly consented to perform the inaugural ceremony. I can assure you, sir, pharmacy is indeed honoured, and I further assure you that the function will be an important event recorded in the annals of pharmacy.

Mr. Chancellor, to you, sir, not only do I offer a welcome which is rather strange in your own home, but I offer to you, coupled with the Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy Chancellor, the Senate and all the officers attached to this great University who have helped and co-operated with us, sincere thanks for allowing us the use of this Great Hall—it has hallowed memories for all of us—for this ceremony. We feel, sir, that no other place could do justice to the ceremony. I do want you to accept the thanks of pharmacy for this fine gesture.

To the Right Honourable the Minister for Health we offer a very warm welcome. We know you very well—we have found you very kindly of access—very sympathetic and understanding. We feel that

when we have any problems of mutual interest we will always be able to get your willing ear, and pharmacy is indeed grateful.

To our distinguished colleagues of the kindred professions who are with us tonight, may I hope that your stay with us tonight will be just as happy and we will have just the same good fellowship as we have when we walk together in our private avocations.

Thanks should go to our friends for their contributions to our Conference. We welcome you all, and look forward to those contributions, and we feel sure that the contributions will be of assistance to the good of pharmacy generally. We do hope your stay will be enjoyable, and that you will have time to see some of the beauty with which this great city is surrounded.

So, on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand, it is my privilege and pleasure to offer you a warm welcome here tonight. Now, ladies and gentlemen, as I mentioned earlier, His Excellency the Governor of the State has kindly consented to perform the opening ceremony, and I would like to present to you His Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir John Northcott, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.V.O., Governor of the State of New South Wales, who will now perform the opening ceremony of the Twentieth Conference of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand.

Ladies and gentlemen, His Excellency Sir John Northcott.—(Applause.)

INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY SIR JOHN NORTHCOTT, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.V.O., GOVERNOR OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

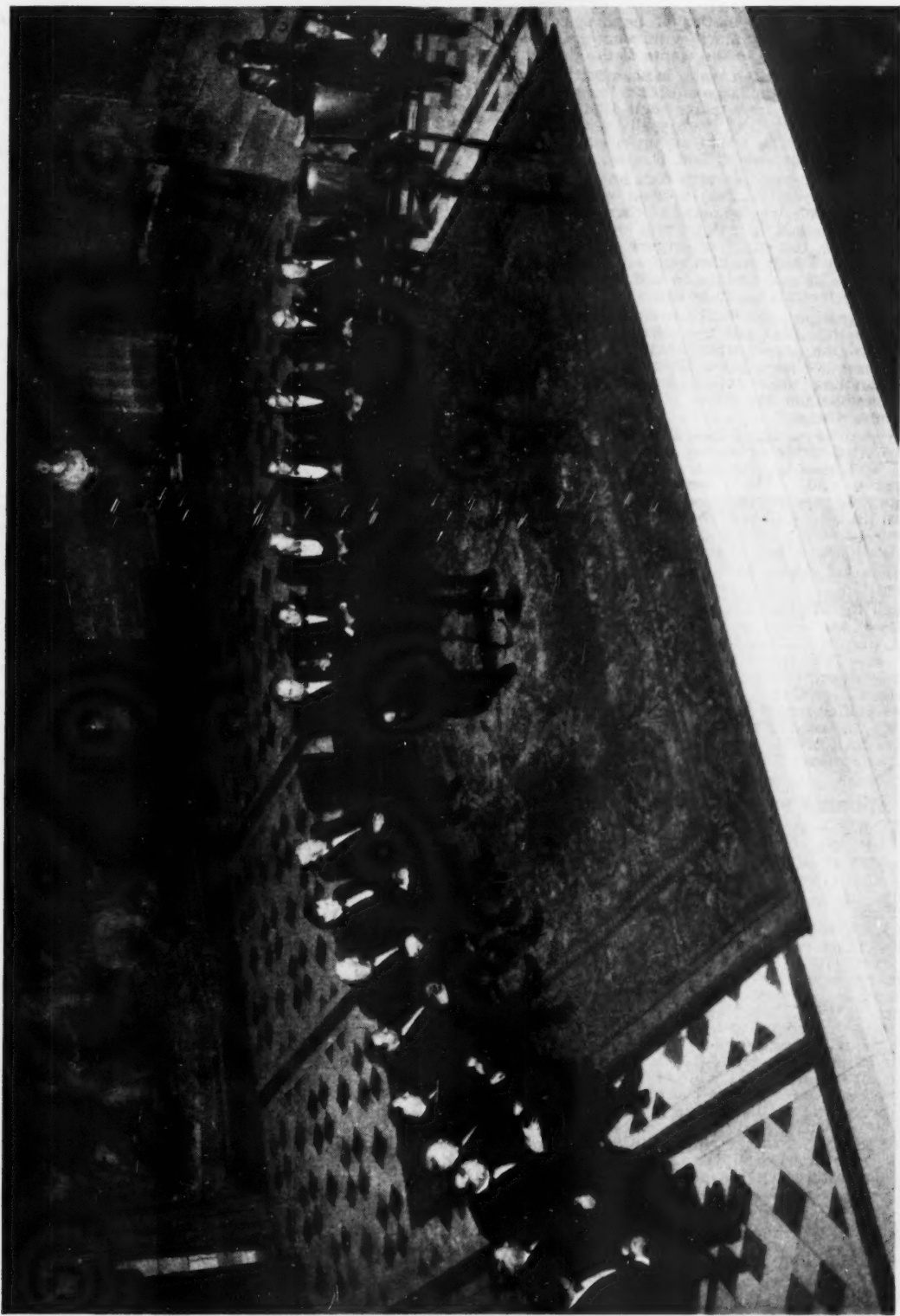
Mr. Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Acting Vice-Chancellor, the Right Honourable the Minister, distinguished visitors, ladies and gentlemen—

It is a very great pleasure to join with you this evening in the opening of this Conference, and I would like to take the opportunity of welcoming very heartily to the State all those visitors from the other States.

It is a great pleasure to have the opportunity, occasionally, when these conferences take place, of meeting many from other States who are interested in the activities that take place in this State as well as elsewhere, and to have the opportunity of meeting here at the University in this Great Hall is, I am sure, something that interstate visitors will appreciate.

I hope it is not intended, Mr. Chairman, that I should discuss or address this learned audience before me on matters affecting pharmacy generally, because, well, I opened an important conference this morning, I have to open Parliament tomorrow morning, I then have a scientific conference a little later on, and I think the Surgeons' Conference, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, a little later on in the week, and I may get mixed up a little bit in what I have to say, in my metaphors or in appearing to be intelligent, and, of course, you know what happens if you get a mixed prescription. It might cause all sorts of difficulties, so I will be excused if I do not say very much.

But I am delighted just to come and hear what is going to happen, because to every citizen—no matter when it is—what this great Society and the people



The official opening of the Conference. His Excellency the Governor of N.S.W., Lieut.-General Sir John Northcott, at the microphone.

who belong to it do, is a matter of importance, and we are all concerned very much with what pharmacy means and how it attends to the wants of the people.

The progress that has been made in science, chemical science of all kinds particularly affecting the health of the people in the last few years; shall I say during the war and since then, has been really a wonderful help to the health of the world at large, and in your hands to a very great extent that is placed.

During the war I remember very well how important it was that we should be able to deal with tropical diseases, and how the developments of chemical science came along and helped us out in very many of those problems. Also in the world of surgery the same sort of thing occurred which enabled our surgeons to deal with the wounds of war and so on and in a way that had never been thought possible before.

Since then great progress has been made with various drugs to treat this, that and the other, and we must make sure that the people who handle these are right up to it because we here know what happens if those who are handling these things are not adequately trained to understand the effect and everything that concerns these drugs.

About a year or so ago I had a dose of pneumonic influenza. After a day or so, my medical officer said, "I think I will have to give you one of these wonder drugs," and he did. For a week or so I felt very washed out, but one of the results—I got rid of the pneumonic flu all right—but, also in a moment, a habit of a lifetime—I used to smoke a pipe and enjoy it, and I have not smoked since. (Laughter.)

So you see that you've got to be careful of what you are dealing with.

My friend the Minister knows quite a lot about that, and, Mr. Minister, I am sure that you will join with me in saying how important it is that pharmacists generally are well up in the science of things that they have to deal with.

Now, Mr. Chancellor, I am not going to say more, as at other conferences I may say too much, and that might upset the evening's discussion, so I will content myself now in declaring this Twentieth Conference of yours officially open. (Applause.)

ADDRESS BY Mr. W. R. CUTLER.

Your Excellency, Mr. Chancellor, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen—

Pharmacy must of necessity be a progressive science. It must be that to exist. His Excellency mentioned the effect of new drugs. The particular effect that they had on him—I had not heard they affected smoking before, but I am learning fast.

Pharmacy must move with the times, and I would say from every angle the great motivating factor activating the minds of those entrusted with the training of pharmaceutical students is to establish pharmaceutical science on the highest plane—not only as a science, not only to be looked up to by the laity and shall we say by those not directly interested, but particularly in the minds of the students they are training.

The student's soul must be imbued with the ideals of the profession which he has chosen to serve. When that is impressed upon the student in the years of his moulding, I feel that the graduates of the future are going to be something we all, and particularly the pharmaceutical profession, shall be proud of.

As you know, we are a very old profession. We have had our ups and downs, our vicissitudes through the ages. One wonders whether these little things, particularly the downs, are sent to try us in order to mould our character and to enable us to emerge to greater service to our profession.

Pharmacy, as I have already mentioned, went through these trials, and we owe a lot, if I may be permitted to say so, to the early pioneers. Pharmacy really

dates from the days of Galen, who was born in Asia Minor early in the first century. Galen managed to get into the graces of the Caesars, and became the Court Physician, but it is not that particular point that pharmacy takes Galen—shall I say for want of better words—as its patron saint, but because Galen instituted something which stands at the foundations of our profession—he introduced the principle of standardisation.

In the light of modern times his standards possibly were very crude. We are told that Galen was known mainly for his standards of that very useful substance—treacle or golden syrup. We are informed of the many volumes that came from his pen, lasting as standards for something like 15 centuries. I do not think that any other writer of any type of work has ever achieved such a record.

Pharmacy got to the doldrums somewhere between 1840 and 1850. We should be very grateful that about that time, not only in England but in America, pharmacists with very high ideals could see that their profession was going down hill, and decided that they would do something about it. In 1843 the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain was founded, and nine years later, in 1852, the American Pharmaceutical Association was formed. It is interesting to note that the founders of both the British and the American Societies were Quakers.

To digress for a moment, it is interesting that both these countries have recently had their centenary celebrations. The United Kingdom celebrated in 1943 the centenary of the British Pharmaceutical Society in one of the worst blitzes on London, and some 200, I have been told, turned up and braved the blitz that night to pay homage to the founders.

It was a privilege for me to represent Australia in America last year at the Centenary of the American Pharmaceutical Association, and it is interesting to note that we in Australia are held in such high regard by the older bodies in different countries. Twenty-four nations were present to do honour to the pioneers of American pharmacy.

After the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain was founded the countries of the British Commonwealth of Nations took the lead from the parent body and established similar societies with the same inspired principles. It was only at the turn of this century that standards of qualification were adopted by legislation in the Commonwealth.

In 1930, pharmacy, as did other professions, felt the world economic crisis very badly. Driven by sheer necessity—by the will to survive—the profession was incited to be commercial, in fact over-commercialised, and it is only now that we are emerging to a fuller radiance of academic light. In Australia in each and every State pharmaceutical education is now in a phase of active renaissance.

The lectorial bodies throughout the Commonwealth are actively engaged in formulating the best methods and approach to ensure that the student shall receive a liberal and comprehensive training—primarily that as a graduate he shall be equipped to meet the ever-increasing advances made in pharmaceutical science and more qualified to engage on that very important assignment—the integral part he plays in the health structure of the nation.

We pay tribute, and when I say "we" I mean pharmacy of Australia, to the approach in New South Wales, which is our host State for this Conference, to the forward move in pharmaceutical education that is on hand for implementation in the near future. This move, which brings it into line with standards already established in Great Britain and on the Continent, will be watched by the eyes of pharmacy throughout Australia, and I venture to say that eventually all other teaching institutions throughout Australia will adopt it by emulation, and adoption will be by choice and not coercion.

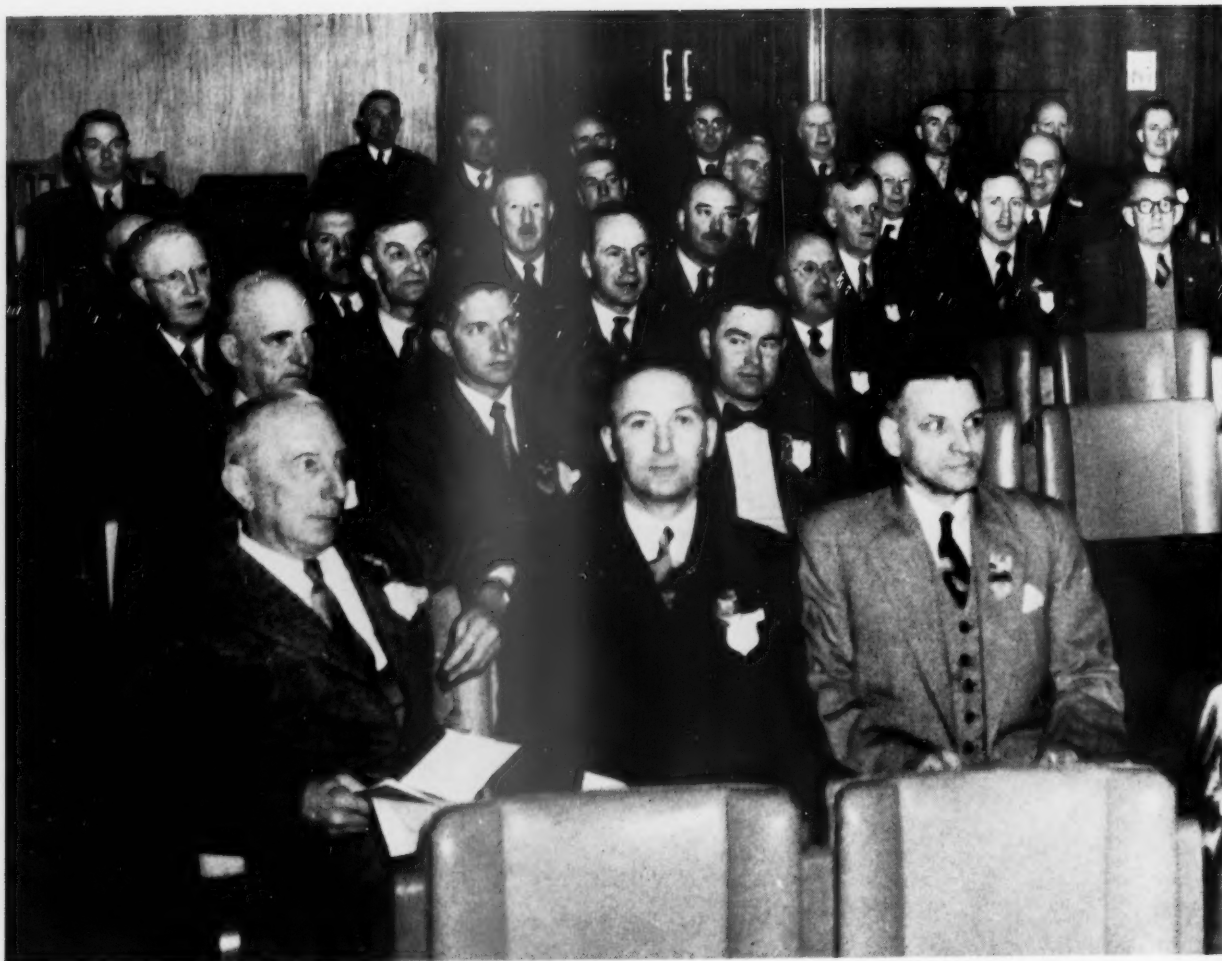
(Continued on page 843.)

Mr. Walter C. Cotterell, of South Australia, the new President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia.



In the illustration below Mr. W. R. Cutler, the retiring President of the Pharmaceutical Association, addresses the Conference. The Hon. General Secretary, Mr. F. C. Kent, records the proceedings.





An impression of the Conference Delegates.



as viewed from the dais in the Stawell Hall.



The ubiquitous cameraman moved about formal pictures at the Lord Mayor's



the reception hall, taking these in-
official reception at Sydney Town Hall.



Left to right: Mrs. I. J. Thompson (Vic.), Mrs. Ross Carter (Vic.), Miss F. Smalley (Vic.), and Mrs. J. Maloney (S.A.).



Ladies' Luncheon.



Five States are represented in this group, which shows (from left to right): Mrs. L. J. Maloney (S.A.), Mrs. J. Dawson (Tas.), Miss J. M. Caird (Vic.), Miss E. Chalmers (Qld.), and Mrs. J. Fairfax (N.S.W.).



Three of the New South Wales ladies take refreshment: Mrs. W. Carter, Miss A. E. Belinfante, and Mrs. H. Owen.



Left to right: Mrs. J. Fairfax (N.S.W., President), Miss I. J. Latham (Secretary, N.S.W.), Mrs. L. J. Maloney (President, A.W.P., S.A.), and Mrs. D. Campbell (Social Secretary, N.S.W.).



This group shows (left to right): Mrs. J. Dawson (Tas.), Miss I. J. Latham (N.S.W.), Mrs. D. Fairfax (N.S.W.), Miss M. Sweeney (N.S.W.), Miss G. Elliot (Qld.), Mrs. L. J. Maloney (S.A.), and Mrs. B. Zobel (N.S.W.).



Left to right: Miss M. Sweeney (N.S.W.), Miss V. Denton (Vic.), Miss J. M. Caird (Vic.). Seated, Miss I. M. J. MacGillivray (Vic.).



The first Presidents of the three Associations (left to right): Mrs. L. J. Maloney (S.A.), Mrs. A. Clarke (N.S.W.), and Miss V. Kelly (Vic.).



Demonstrations in the Pharmacy Department at the University of Sydney.



At the Lord Mayor's Reception. Correct eye level maintained as the Lord Mayor transfers liquid!

(Continued from page 834.)

No profession should be trammelled by fetters of commercial bondage, and I appeal to the legislators in all States to ensure that the profession of pharmacy shall be protected from exploitation by outside interests and unqualified control.

In the protection of interests of the nation, the graduate of pharmacy, and the graduate of pharmacy alone, is qualified to practise the profession, and should receive that right—his inherent right—written into the Pharmacy Acts of the separate States and Commonwealth.

We have seen the results of the new British system, and I for one think it is a great advance to follow that type of training which we have followed in this State.

We have made many errors; we will probably make more in the future. However, I would like to leave you with this warning. It applies to pharmacy and to every other profession or calling, and if I may quote—

"Mistakes are lessons of wisdom. The past cannot be changed. The future is yet in your power."

Ladies and gentlemen, the future is in your power—this Conference; future conferences still to attend. To keep that future secure for pharmacy and for the health of the nation. (Applause.)

INDUCTION OF Mr. WALTER C. COTTERELL AS PRESIDENT.

Mr. Cutler then presented Mr. Cotterell, President-Elect. In doing so he said:—

Your Excellency, Mr. Chancellor, the Right Honourable the Minister for Health, distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen—

There comes a time when one who is in the service of an organisation must leave that position. Being human, it is possible that parting means regrets. These regrets are tempered by very happy memories, by the co-operation which has been by the Executive of the organisation of which one serves, and by the co-operation of all members associated with it.

It also is another great advantage in this case that the mantle of leadership falls from my shoulders to one who is not only a worthy new President, but on one whom I can claim as a friend of many years' standing.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is my duty and great pleasure to present to you your new President, who comes from Adelaide, that city of culture. May I present Mr. Walter C. Cotterell, your new President. (Applause.)

RESPONSE BY Mr. COTTERELL.

Your Excellency, Mr. Chancellor, Mr. Acting Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the Right Honourable the Minister, distinguished visitors, ladies and gentlemen—

Mr. Cutler, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you most sincerely. I am sure your words of praise were not warranted. I know that I have a

very high ideal set before me in the manner in which you have conducted the conferences of the Association over the past two years, but notwithstanding that, I will endeavour to carry out the work faithfully.

Your Excellency, I would like to thank you on behalf of the ladies and gentlemen present for your patronage and courtesy in opening this 20th Conference. I think you said, Your Excellency, that you have been opening so many conferences recently that you were afraid of getting your metaphors mixed, and that you may possibly give us a mixed prescription. I say, sir, on behalf of my colleagues, I can allay your fears, and you can take along that prescription to my worthy colleagues, and it will be faithfully mixed and well, and you need have no fears.

Mr. Chancellor, I would on behalf of the ladies and gentlemen present, and also my colleagues all over Australia, like to take the opportunity of thanking you most sincerely for making this magnificent Great Hall of the University of Sydney available for the opening of this our Twentieth Conference, and may I also, sir, extend to you on behalf of all those present and all the pharmacists throughout Australia our very sincere congratulations, and may I, through you, congratulate Professor R. H. Thorp, Professor of Pharmacology, and his colleagues, on the announcement in the press yesterday of his discovery in synthesising a drug which we understand will be of great value to heart disease sufferers. (Applause.)

May I also say, sir, that we do share with Professor Thorp and his colleagues sincere wishes that his work and experiments will enable science to take another step forward in this rapid advance in the treatment of ailments which beset mankind.

In the agenda which we have before us, and which we will deliberate during the next seven days, we have many items which I think reflect the various facets of pharmaceutical science. We have domestic matters also. We have many more important matters, chief among these being pharmaceutical education and the relationship between the Government, the pharmacists and the people of Australia in social medicine.

I would also like to say as far as pharmaceutical education is concerned that, with the rapid advance of chemotherapy and the discovery of the antibiotics, all pharmacists have to keep abreast of modern discoveries. They have a very important role, therefore, and the education of our students becomes a very vital matter.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you for the courtesy which you have extended to all the ladies and gentlemen here this evening. I trust that this 20th Conference of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand may be crowned with success, that deliberations shall be wise, and that in years to come you may look upon this 20th Conference held in Sydney with satisfaction, and know that we have taken another step forward in the advancement of pharmaceutical education and pharmaceutical science for the benefit of the people of Australia. (Applause.)

SECOND SESSION—WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, AT 9.30 a.m.

Opening.—The first business session of Conference was opened at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 12, by the retiring President of the Association, Mr. W. R. Cutler, who welcomed the delegates and expressed the hope that benefit would result from their discussions.

Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Conference.—The minutes of the last Conference, held in Brisbane, in May, 1951, were taken as read and were confirmed on the motion of Mr. E. E. Nye (Vic.), seconded by Mr. E. F. Lipsham (S.A.).

Voting Delegates.—Credentials in favour of delegates nominated by the respective organisations to vote in Conference were received as follows:—

Queensland: Pharmacy Board, Mr. R. S. F. Greig; Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. R. S. F. Greig; Federal Pharmaceutical Service Guild, Mr. W. A. Lenehan; Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd., Mr. W. A. Lenehan.

New South Wales: Pharmacy Board, Mr. J. L. Townley; Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. E. G. Hall (alternate delegate, Mr. B. G. Fegent); Federated Pharmaceu-

tical Service Guild, Mr. J. Little (alternate delegate, Mr. W. F. Pinerua).

Victoria: Pharmacy Board, Mr. H. A. Braithwaite; Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. I. J. Thompson; Pharmaceutical Service Guild, Mr. W. R. Iliffe (alternate delegate, Mr. N. F. Keith); Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd., Mr. E. W. Braithwaite (alternate delegates, Mr. N. C. Cossar and Mr. E. A. O. Moore).

South Australia: Pharmacy Board, Mr. K. S. Porter (alternate delegate, Mr. E. F. Lipsham); Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. A. C. Holloway (alternate delegate, Mr. K. S. Porter); Pharmaceutical Service Guild, Mr. G. K. F. Scott; Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd., Mr. Walter C. Cotterell.

Western Australia: Pharmaceutical Council, Mr. H. D. Fitch (alternate delegate, Mr. E. J. Nicholas); Pharmaceutical Service Guild, Mr. G. D. T. Allen; Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd., Mr. T. D. H. Allen (substitute delegate, Mr. E. J. Nicholas); Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. F. W. Avenell (alternate delegate, Mr. E. J. Nicholas).

Tasmania: Pharmacy Board, Mr. D. R. Crisp; Pharmaceutical Society, Mrs. Lee Scott Dawson; Pharmaceutical Service Guild, Mr. L. W. Palfreyman.

Losses by Death.—The Chairman referred feelingly to the deaths since the last meeting of Mr. A. C. Rutler (Qld.) and Mr. J. D. Garrett (S.A.), both of whom had taken prominent places in previous meetings of the Association and had gained the affection of colleagues in all States.

Messages to Absentees.—Following the customary practice at previous Conferences, it was resolved that fraternal greetings be conveyed to members of previous assemblies unable for various reasons to attend the Sydney meeting. Messages were sent to Mr. A. A. Meldrum (Great Britain), Mr. F. T. Holmes (Tas.), Mr. T. G. Stephen (Tas.), Mr. K. G. Attiwill (Vic.); Mr. A. T. S. Sissons (Vic.), Mr. A. W. McGibbony (Vic.), Dr. B. L. Stanton (Vic.), Mr. S. J. Baird (Vic.), and Dr. Eric Watson (W.A.).

It was resolved also that greetings be cabled to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Mr. Cutler reported that a cable had been sent to the American Pharmaceutical Association.

Honorary General Secretary's Report.—The following report was read by the Honorary General Secretary:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,—

I have pleasure in submitting the following report on the administrative work of the Association for the period May, 1951, to August, 1953.

The present conference is the twentieth held since the formation of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference, which later became the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand. Two previous meetings have been held in Sydney—one in 1911, one in 1932.

In the twenty-one years that have elapsed since 1932, great changes have taken place. Development of pharmaceutical organisation in Australia has been phenomenal, but consonant with the increasing variety and number of problems that have beset the profession.

Since 1932 the Guild has grown from infancy to become one of the most influential organisations of its kind. At the date of the last Conference in New South Wales its specialist department—Public Relations and Merchandising—were not born.

The ever-increasing number of facets to pharmacy—inseparable from normal growth—has called for specialisation and departmentalisation within our organisation and renders the function of the Association as the convener of conferences increasingly important. Only at conferences such as those organised by the Association is it possible for representatives of all official organisations in all States, as well as in the Federal sphere, to come together in consultation, debate and for expression of opinions on the many and varied matters concerning pharmacy.

Withdrawal of New Zealand.

It is a matter of regret that New Zealand has seen fit to withdraw from membership of the Association. In the past, matters of mutual interest to the Commonwealth and the Dominion have been discussed and we have profited greatly from the attendance of New Zealand delegates at our gatherings. The march of time, however, brings change. New Zealand pharmacy now has its own periodical conferences, its own formulary, its own journal and its own system of control by licensing, which is not known in Australia. Fundamentally, however, the practice of pharmacy and the principles underlying that practice are the same, and there are many matters of common interest.

These factors, combined with the time and expense of travel between Australia and New Zealand, no doubt, have influenced the decision of our New Zealand friends to sever their connection with Australia through the Association.

It is, however, deeply disappointing that the visit of Mr. E.

Prince, the Dominion President, and Mr. Charles Cameron, the Dominion Secretary of the Chemists' Service Guild of New Zealand, had to be cancelled because of some political emergency involving pharmacy in New Zealand. The executive was looking forward keenly and with great interest to the attendance of these two gentlemen at the Sydney meeting.

President's Visit to U.S.A.

For the first time in our history the Association was represented at a pharmaceutical conference in U.S.A. In August, 1952, the American Pharmaceutical Association held its Centenary Convention at Philadelphia, U.S.A. Thanks to the generosity of Messrs. Allen and Hanbury Ltd., who presented the Association with a cheque to cover the cost of the return fare to Philadelphia, it was possible for our President to attend as the official representative of Australia. After attending the Convention, Mr. Cutler spent some weeks in U.S.A. and later visited Great Britain, France and Switzerland. In all countries which he visited he made an intensive study of pharmaceutical conditions and has furnished voluminous reports of considerable value and interest to Australian pharmaceutical organisations. The Association is indebted to him for his able representation.

The A.P.F.

Since the Brisbane meeting in 1951 stock of the A.P.F., 7th Edition, became exhausted and it was necessary to arrange for a reprint. As the number required was limited, the cost per copy was considerably higher than for the original order. Copies were supplied to the States that required them at the cost to the Association.

A report from the Editorial Committee is to be presented to delegates at this meeting. This report will indicate the progress made with the compilation of the new edition and supply details of other matters in which delegates will be interested.

I wish, however, to refer in this report to the immense amount of work done on the revision by the Editorial Committee. Even to an onlooker, it is obvious that over the last two years the members of the Editorial Committee have made a tremendous contribution to pharmacy.

It is with regret that I report that during the period in which revision has been taking place two members of the Editorial Committee, Dr. B. L. Stanton and Mr. A. W. Callister, suffered severe illnesses, which interrupted their work. Fortunately, both have recovered sufficiently to resume most of their duties.

Mr. N. C. Manning has been co-opted to the Editorial Committee and has given invaluable assistance.

Mrs. N. C. Manning has served as secretary to the Editorial Committee in purely honorary capacity, and has given hundreds of hours of service as her contribution to the new A.P.F.

These are facts which, I think, should be made known to pharmacy throughout Australia, and should call forth the appreciation and thanks of the entire profession.

Military Matters.

In September, 1951, Mr. E. W. Braithwaite (Vic.), Mr. B. Fegent (N.S.W.) and the Honorary General Secretary interviewed Major-General Kingsley Norris, the Director-General of Medical Services for the Army in Melbourne, and discussed with him a series of recommendations on matters relating to the pharmaceutical services in the Army, drawn up by the New South Wales Chemists' Sub-Branch of the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A.

A sympathetic hearing was received and the deputation was given an assurance that its representations would be carefully considered.

With regard to the recommendation concerning the rank and title of the appointment of Senior Pharmacist at Army Headquarters, the deputation was informed that the Senior Pharmaceutical Officer at Army Headquarters did then have direct access to the D.G.M.S. The rank, however, was that of major and the title S.O.M.S. (Equipment).

A recommendation that all Army establishments containing reference to "Dispensers or Pharmacists" be altered by deleting any reference to "dispensers," and that all pharmacists should have commission to rank was adopted and put into operation.

A recommendation in regard to the appointment of "dispensary technicians" was not approved.

Some progress has been made with the up-grading of ranks for pharmaceutical personnel in the Army; e.g., a recommendation that in Army medical stores there should be a pharmacist with rank of major and one with rank of lieutenant has been adopted. For base depots provision is made for a major and a captain.

The recommendation that the Medical Equipment Advisory Committee (Army) should include a pharmaceutical officer with minimum rank of major also has been accepted.

In Melbourne good liaison has been established with senior Army officers in the Medical Corps, and matters relating to the pharmaceutical services have been discussed on numerous occasions with them.

Equal Pay for Men and Women.

The recommendation regarding equality of pay for male and female personnel (pharmaceutical) in the Army was carried by the authorities, but was not favourably received. It was pointed out that service conditions and duties performed by women pharmacists in the Army were different from those performed by men, and that in all sections—within the defence services, in Government services and in civilian services in some States—differential rates applied to men and women, not only in pharmacy, but throughout the organisations.

It was obvious that progress could not be made with talks at departmental level on this question, nor that of specialist allowances for pharmacists, and, in view of the fact that there are now no women pharmacists in the Army, and none are being called for, it does not appear desirable to regard this as a major issue.

Education.

Two Conferences on Pharmaceutical Education have taken place since the Brisbane meeting—one during the A.N.Z.A.A.S. meeting in Sydney in August, 1952, and one in Adelaide in February, 1953, at which all States were represented. Discussions also took place between South Australian and Victorian representatives at a Conference in Melbourne in February, 1952. Full details of the discussions and recommendations of these meetings have been published and circulated to all States and will come before the present Conference for further consideration.

The executive expresses its appreciation of the action of the Pharmaceutical Public Relations Secretariat in actively pursuing the thoughts on the subject of pharmaceutical education presented at the Brisbane Conference, and for its effective interest in this important field of pharmaceutical work.

Standard Packaging.

Progress with this problem has been negligible. The subject was referred to the Federal Office of the Guild and was listed by the Guild for discussion at a meeting of the Drug and Allied Trade Council, held in 1952, but without definite result.

Withdrawal of the Guild from the D.A.T.C. and diversity of opinion on various aspects of this question have been, no doubt, contributing factors in the failure to make any positive advance in discussions with manufacturers and distributors.

It would appear necessary, if effective action is to be taken, that a strong and representative committee be established to prepare a clear and definite statement of pharmacy's wishes in this troublesome matter for submission to manufacturers.

General.

Messrs. R. S. F. Greig and J. Delahunty represented the Association at the British Pharmaceutical Conference, held at Nottingham in September, 1952.

Mr. A. T. S. Sissons has been nominated as the Association representative to attend the Conference in London in September, 1953. The proposal concerning a London Conference of representatives of British Commonwealth countries in 1953 lapsed because of inability to secure representation from a sufficient number of countries.

It is with profound sorrow that the executive records the deaths of Mr. R. C. Rutter, a former President, while on a visit to the United States, during which he represented Queensland at the Centenary Convention of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

Widespread regret also has been expressed and is shared by the Association at the recent death of Mr. J. D. Garrett, of South Australia, a much-loved and familiar figure at earlier Conferences.

F. C. KENT,
Honorary General Secretary.

College of Pharmacy,
360 Swanston street, Melbourne. 7.8/53.

Discussion of Report.—On the motion of Mr. H. D. B. Cox, seconded by Mr. L. Long, it was resolved that the deep appreciation of Conference be conveyed to Messrs. Allen and Hanbury for their generous contribution, which made possible the visit of the President of the Association, Mr. W. R. Cutler, to the Centenary Convention of the American Pharmaceutical Association, held at Philadelphia, U.S.A., in August, 1952.

Mr. E. G. Hall referred to the section of the report dealing with Mrs. N. C. Manning's contribution to the work of the A.P.F. Editorial Committee, and moved that the thanks and appreciation of Conference be conveyed Mrs. Manning. The motion was seconded by Mr. H. W. Read (N.S.W.) and carried with acclamation.

ADDRESS BY MR. M. O'SULLIVAN, MINISTER FOR HEALTH FOR NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Chairman, Mr. W. R. Cutler, said it gave him great pleasure to introduce delegates to Hon. Mr. O'Sullivan, Minister for Health in New South Wales.

Chemists in New South Wales regarded Mr. O'Sullivan with respect and esteem. They felt they could always approach him in his Ministerial capacity and receive a fair hearing. They would look forward to hearing what he had to tell them.

Mr. O'Sullivan opened by expressing his sincere thanks to the President for the warm welcome given to him, and the kind references which had been made.

Anything he had been able to do was done very largely through the officers of his Department, and, insofar as pharmacy was concerned particularly, Mr. Cosgrave, the Registrar of the Pharmacy Board.

Mr. O'Sullivan said he would like to congratulate the retiring President, Mr. Cutler, on a well-done job, and to extend good wishes to his successor in office, Mr. Walter Cotterell.

It was most important, said Mr. O'Sullivan, for members of the pharmaceutical profession to be trained to the highest possible standard, and that had been recog-

nised by the pharmaceutical organisations and the Government in New South Wales.

When a Government came to power, one of the first things done was to elect a Cabinet of fifteen people, who were considered to be most suitable for the Ministry.

He had served nine years as Minister for Transport. He thought the choice had been a bad one, but his officers had done a splendid job, notwithstanding the criticism they had to put up with.

Then he went to the portfolio of Health; but at that time did not know the ramification of the Department and its fourteen boards. He never dreamt that he would come into such close contact with the personnel of those boards as had been his experience.

His experience had been a happy one and was characterised by mutual help. He was always prepared to help his boards and committees, because they were ready to help him. He had always found the boards anxious to assist in improving standards.

When he learned from Professor Thorp that there were arrangements to be made for improving the standard of education of chemists in New South Wales and that he was backed up by the rest of the organisations, it was his (Mr. O'Sullivan's) privilege to introduce the necessary legislation. Experience would, he thought, prove that that legislation was good.

Under it, for the first time, it would be possible for apprentices to serve a portion of their time in the Australian Capital Territory.

From a date to be proclaimed, the present system of apprenticeship would be abolished and full-time courses substituted. There had been opposition, but he thought they were on the right track.

Mr. Cosgrave had informed him that while Conference was sitting 125 candidates would be taking their examinations under the new conditions.

Parliament had before it at the moment a Poisons Bill. That Bill had been on the stocks for quite a long time, but the House had given him permission to introduce it and to set up an Advisory Poisons Committee. Unfortunately, a great deal had been said about thallium, which was figuring very largely in poisonings in New South Wales. There had been a great deal of publicity given to the Advisory Committee's recommendations and some people would say there had been too much Ministerial interference.

Mr. O'Sullivan said he understood that in some States where a poison was used, the name of the poison was not mentioned in the press.

That should be done in New South Wales. He did not wish to criticise the press, but felt that there should be something which would help to minimise the spread of these thallium poisonings.

Yesterday, one of the girls from Parliament House went into a chemist's shop and asked for a bottle of thallium. The assistant told the girl she was not allowed to sell it. That was helpful. If the press gave the same help a lot of the trouble would be overcome.

Mr. O'Sullivan said he was born in Paddington and had lived there ever since. He moved around the district quite a lot and his mind went back to the old chemist's shop, gloomy and forbidding—a place which people were almost frightened to enter, in case the occupant might do something to them. There had been great changes. In the past you did not see the person who was going to dispense for you, but today the modern pharmacy was a thing of beauty, in which all of the operations could be seen.

A person today went into a chemist's shop with a degree of confidence that was a credit to the profession.

A prescription was taken to a man that the customer had never seen in his life, but the product was accepted with complete confidence. He would take the medicine dispensed for him without question.

Mr. Cosgrave had reminded him that there were 600 apprentices in training in New South Wales, 2620 registered chemists and 1350 open shops, with thousands of employees.

Pharmacy filled a big place in the community. Its leaders were endeavouring to advance the standards and

THIRD SESSION—WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, AT 2.15 p.m.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND FROM THE ASSOCIATION.

At the request of the Chairman, the Honorary General Secretary read the following correspondence concerning the withdrawal of the Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand from membership of the Association:—

(12th September, 1952.)

"Dear Mr. Kent,—

"I am sorry to have to inform you that at a meeting of this Board on the 9th instant, it was resolved with regret to withdraw from the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand.

"I was instructed, when communicating with you, to explain that this decision was taken because, from the Board's experience over a number of years, there did not appear to be any practicable means by which the Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand or its executive body, the Pharmacy Board, could contribute towards the Association's advancement or participate effectively in its activities.—Yours sincerely,

C. E. WYNNE,
Registrar."

(15th September, 1952.)

"Dear Mr. Wynne,—

"I am in receipt of your letter dated 12th September, 1952, and, like you, regret the decision of your Board to withdraw from the Association.

"This, of course, is a move which was not unforeseen. For many years it has not been possible for New Zealand to be represented at meetings of the Australian Pharmaceutical Conference, and with the development of your National Pharmaceutical Service, your adoption of a formulary of your own, and generally the trend towards independent growth, we have anticipated the possibility of your withdrawal from active participation and membership of the Association.

"The Association of the Dominion with us has been exceedingly happy, and, from that point of view, we are sorry that the tie is to be broken. Nevertheless, we do trust that there will be collaboration between our respective countries—as I know there will.

"You are probably aware that Mr. Cameron has been invited to attend the Sydney meeting of the Association, which will be held about the middle of August, 1953. It was my intention to write to you, inquiring if an additional representative from the Pharmacy Board might be appointed to attend this meeting. Perhaps your Board will give this matter consideration and advise later on. I understand that Mr. Cameron's visit is being sponsored by Kodak Limited.—Yours sincerely,
F. C. Kent, Hon. General Secretary."

Discussion.—Mr. T. D. H. Allan (W.A.) said his State was dismayed at the withdrawal. Although there had not been a great deal of liaison between Australia and New Zealand, there was no reason why there should not be much closer relationship in the future. He thought the break away would weaken pharmacy in the Southern Hemisphere at a time when bonds should be strengthened. He hoped the matter could be reconsidered. It was a great pity that the visit of the two New Zealand representatives, by force of circumstances, had to be cancelled. Their presence at this Conference would have been very helpful.

Mr. L. Hamon (Vic.) said it was a matter for regret that New Zealand was retiring from the Association. He thought Australia had a lot to learn from New Zealand, just as New Zealand might have something to learn from Australia. If the withdrawal were confirmed, he would like to see some liaison between the two countries set up and would like the executive to consider that aspect.

Mr. A. E. Conolly (N.S.W.) said he agreed with previous

speakers. They should attempt to retain New Zealand within the Association, and, if they were not successful, they should retain the name.

Mr. I. J. Thompson (Vic.) said they must be realists. If New Zealand had decided to withdraw, that decision must be respected. It might be that they intended to, or had, in fact, formed a Pharmaceutical Association of New Zealand. There must be progress in all matters and change must be faced courageously.

Mr. K. S. Porter (S.A.) said he thought New Zealand had clearly indicated that, in its opinion, the time had come for it to sever its connections with the Association. Their spheres of interest and activity had drifted apart somewhat, and there was not a great deal to hold New Zealand in the Association. He thought both countries could do better for themselves if they left New Zealand to look after its own domestic affairs.

Mr. K. Powell (N.S.W.) said he agreed that New Zealand's wishes in the matter should be respected, but that some form of liaison with New Zealand should be developed.

Mr. W. Pinerua (N.S.W.) said he thought some affiliation, other than membership, might be brought about. The Chairman said he thought some attempt should be made to hold New Zealand in the Association.

Mr. R. S. F. Greig (Qld.) expressed the opinion that the move by New Zealand had been taken deliberately and not without due consideration. The only thing to be done, in his opinion, was to accept the withdrawal with regret.

Mr. Cutler said that whilst in America he was closely associated with Mr. Bell, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand, and gathered the impression that the New Zealand Society wished to retire from the Association.

It was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Cox (N.S.W.), seconded by Mr. I. J. Thompson (Vic.), that the withdrawal of New Zealand from membership of the Association be accepted with regret.

THE NAME OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Conference then proceeded to consider the recommendation of the executive that the name of the Association be changed to The Australian Pharmaceutical Association. A formal resolution that such a change be made was presented by the Chairman, Mr. W. R. Cutler, and seconded by Mr. Walter C. Cotterell.

Mr. I. J. Thompson (Vic.) said the matter had been considered in Victoria by the Liaison Committee, which was strongly of opinion that the name should be changed to The Pharmaceutical Association of Australia. He, therefore, moved an amendment that the name be changed to The Pharmaceutical Association of Australia. Mr. B. G. Fegent (N.S.W.) seconded the amendment.

The original motion was supported by Mr. K. S. Porter (S.A.). Mr. F. N. Lee supported the amendment. Mr. A. C. Fraser said he strongly supported the amendment, which emphasised the word "pharmaceutical."

After other delegates had expressed opinions, the amendment was put to the meeting and carried.

The amendment was then submitted as a motion and was carried.

Mr. T. G. Allen moved that, following the change of name of the Pharmaceutical Association, the constitution and rules, which hitherto governed the affairs of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand, be and are hereby accepted and adopted as applicable to the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia, subject to the incorporation of such changes in verbiage in the constitution and rules as may be considered necessary by the executive.

The motion was seconded by Mr. E. G. Hall and carried.

RETIRING PRESIDENT'S VALEDICTORY ADDRESS.

The retiring President, Mr. W. R. Cutler, delivered the following address:—

"OUR CITADEL."

"O! Let us build a citadel
On the summit of inspiration hill,
Using the materials of virtue, and a will
To raise a structure that shall be
Footed in the foundations of integrity.
O! Let us build a citadel."

A citadel, so we are informed, was in earlier days, a fortified town or area, a community, protected by natural resources and man-made defences. It was a place of refuge and safety, and was garrisoned by men who would fight for their rights of freedom, disdaining bondage, even though the fetters be golden.

This citadel or tower of strength, this haven for all in the uncertain times that classified the mediaeval era, was a symbol of defiance against the aggressor and a pillar of hope for the oppressed. It was the goal which men strived to enter before the hours of darkness fell on an uncertain countryside, for therein one could pass the night in peace, guarded by stout walls and steadfast defenders. Thus stood the citadel of the middle ages.

Have we a citadel, a tower of strength, in pharmacy?

For your consideration, it can be propounded that our salvation, our refuge, and our hope for the future are all embodied in the profession we call pharmacy. It is our "storeyed keep" to protect us against our aggressors, and it is therefore the prime duty of the qualified pharmaceutical chemist to ensure that the ramparts of pharmacy are ever held intact, that our "citadel" is held secure.

We are its guardians, and to us is entrusted the vital task of manning the walls of our "citadel," nor can we afford to allow those walls to be eroded, a breach in our defences could be fatal. Our honour and our integrity are bonded within our profession, which in itself endows honour upon those who serve it faithfully. Those who tarnish the honour of pharmacy are themselves soiled; they have loosened the evils of erosion and assailed the walls and foundations of our "citadel," and with persistent erosion the greatest fortresses will in the ultimate crumble.

Thus, it is necessary to preserve unsoiled the shield of our honour—our profession. To keep our "citadel" firm and extant, we may have recourse to a rebuilding project, or merely to refurbishing the existing structure, but in any such programme we must retain as our fundamentals the foundations of integrity and service, on which basis pharmacy at its genesis was dedicated.

We may consider our salvation to lie in a plan to enlarge our academic processes, to broaden the knowledge and encroach into other spheres that could be justly termed neighbours to pharmaceutical science. Or perhaps we may desire to alter our opinion of training methods, giving the student a different approach to his profession than that of apprentice and master—the type of pupillage so long established and now slowly being erased by countries in which the profession has been raised in ethical status.

These possible advances, though very essential in the pursuit of our profession to ensure that it can keep a steady pace in the light of scientific achievement, are our interior furnishing plan, and extremely necessary to adorn the house of pharmacy. But to keep our "citadel" a buttress and our tower of strength, we must acquire that legislation—that enactment certain to stand the test of time, written so well that it cannot be breached—the complete rights of pharmacy being in the hands of qualified pharmaceutical chemists—and in their hands only.

Now let us take stock, let us journey around the States of this great Commonwealth and by observation make a check on the present status quo.

Queensland.—In this State pharmacy lies more or less open to exploitation by unqualified persons who possess the necessary capital for investment. Friendly society dispensaries have full right of expansion, and the chain type of company pharmacy could go ahead and open anywhere if it had the impetus of desire. Queensland in the past has felt the influx of multiple pharmacies of the chain type, and if at any time the situation became sufficiently attractive, could experience the "octopus" in the future.

[The Queensland position is somewhat altered under the present Act. See explanation by Mr. Cutler on page 869.—Ed.]

New South Wales.—Here in 1940 an amendment to the Pharmacy Act held the chain pharmacies to a fixed figure—"stetted the position"—but does this really consolidate confidence? Owing to the loose draft of the licensure existing at present, any person or company of persons may open or purchase a pharmacy, provided qualified personnel is in charge of the establishment.

The present situation in New South Wales offers this picture—not an inspiring one: Multiple chain pharmacies (limited in numbers), friendly society dispensaries, with open trading rights (limited in numbers), pharmacies of unqualified ownership (increasing alarmingly). And, as a tragic foil showing a dim outlook for the future, we are confronted by an increasing number of pharmacists setting up branch pharmacies under a "dummy ownership." By these means protective barriers become undermined, and a weak legislation becomes more honoured in the breach than by the letter of the law.

Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia.—These four States may be bracketed together for the purpose of advancing this story. We are all fairly conversant with the legislation controlling the ownership of pharmacies in these States and know that it has some similar features. These, while not identical, are fairly close in their main characteristics. The general tone of the various enactments restricts ownership, except in the case of friendly society dispensaries, to qualified pharmaceutical chemists. But they also give, with different degrees of variation in the individual State, the registered pharmaceutical chemist the right to own more than one pharmacy. In the State of Victoria the number of pharmacies that one registered pharmacist may own is unlimited. In Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia there is a restricted number for individual ownership.

But all these statements, though useful for the purpose of preparing the picture, do not alter the fact that once a pharmaceutical chemist owns more than one pharmacy, he is very little removed from the category of chain-store ownership. This appears a definite crack in the structure of any protective legislation. After briefly reviewing our domestic situation, let us journey overseas and assimilate a rather rapid coverage of the practice of pharmacy in countries that are of essential interest to us. We can very quickly observe the effect of multiple pharmacy on the profession, and how such forms of exploitation can reduce its ethical status to an "all-time low."

Just some 1200 miles from here, across the Tasman Sea, and at this very moment pharmacy as a profession is in the throes of what well may be "a life or death struggle," and we here can only hope for a successful outcome. Our pharmaceutical friends in New Zealand have felt the first impact of multiple chain pharmacies, backed by huge financial resources, and they will have to fight very hard to avoid being engulfed in the tide that threatens the overthrow of their last barrier of defence. Don't be complacent; it could easily happen in Australia.

We will proceed across the wide Pacific and become acquainted with that great country, the United States of America. The drug store is an institution in "the States," but it is hardly a type of recommendation that could be endorsed for Australia. A number of officials of the American Pharmaceutical Association arrived at

an estimate that 10 per cent. of the pharmaceutical establishments in the United States were what they termed "ethical." Now, from limited observations, the figure quoted (10 per cent.) was really wishful thinking, and a truer figure would be nearer 5 per cent. What our friends term an "ethical" pharmacy is the usual type of Australia pharmacy, and this so-called "ethical" pharmacy is found more in the rural field than in urban areas. But one great and powerful factor soon makes its impact on the observer. The overwhelming bulk of the drug trade in this great country finds its retail outlet per media of the great chain cartels. These financial organisations not only dominate the retail field, but also exert a powerful pressure effect on all the wholesale manufacturing houses. In short, they more or less "call the tune" for pharmacy throughout the United States of America.

Now make your parallel in the Commonwealth of Australia. Do you want pharmacy to drown in a like commercial tidal wave? Of course you don't; but you are not repairing the breaches in your pharmaceutical structure, and, until you do, it could happen here.

Over the wide Atlantic we have travelled and have made our landfall on the shores of Albion. Let us consider authentic figures on pharmacy in the United Kingdom for the year 1952. Of some 15,000 pharmacies in Great Britain, over 8000 were owned or controlled by companies. It is a rather dreary outlook for pharmacy when we are confronted by the fact that over 50 per cent. of the pharmaceutical establishments in Great Britain have a company policy. Pathos is added when one reflects that in these isles the cradle of our British race, also arose our inspiration for modern pharmaceutical culture. Is it not a tragic trend to an anti-climax? Here pharmaceutical education is on the highest plane, yet the hope of a modern graduate of this fine academic training to become the proprietor of a pharmacy in his native land is practically nil. It was stated by a competent observer that company pharmacy is now either purchasing or opening new pharmacies in the United Kingdom at the rate of one per week. I contemplate this sad state of affairs in England, and the realisation of what faulty legislation can do to defeat an honourable profession, while we pass on to a brighter and happier pharmaceutical theme.

It was a delight to see in France just what an effective and extremely protective system of legislation can do. As you are doubtless aware, in this country there is a licensing system for the control of the number of pharmacies, calculated on a pro rata basis, according to the density of the population. Briefly, the basis is as follows—

To cities with a population of 30,000 or more, a licence is issued for every 3000.

To towns with a population of above 5000, but under 30,000, a licence is issued for every 2500 of the population.

If the population of a classified area is less than 5000 there is a licence issued for every 2000 head of the population.

This state of balance may not appeal to us here, but it offers some very sound compensations. What you may not realise is the desirable fact that in this country, and under this system there are no multiple chain pharmacies. Here only qualified ownership is permitted, you will not find any extraneous lines being offered for sale from pharmacies, and, on the other hand, no other type of store is permitted to retail pharmaceutical lines. Still further, no wholesale house is allowed to be established unless it is proved that the ownership and the preparation and distribution of its products are in the hands of a qualified pharmaceutical chemist. And, finally, France, in regard to the practice of pharmacy, does not recognise any reciprocal agreement with any other State or country, and insists that naturalisation as a French subject is an essential requirement before a person can proceed to the final qualifying examination of a pharmaceutical chemist.

Here is a country in which pharmaceutical science is held in high regard, and where the pharmaceutical

chemist is placed on a plane of respect that would be enviable in Australia.

You now have both sides of the situation—the result of faulty legislation or the hope of what a compact licensure can accomplish. It is most desirable that you have now come to a full realisation of the very present and vital dangers that confront our profession in this fair land. Do not be hoodwinked by a mask of your own making, and pray that we may be guarded from our own deceit, for, whatever excuse we use to salve our conscience, we are letting the practice of multiple pharmacies creep in. You may term it qualified ownership, as under Victorian, Tasmanian, South Australian or Western Australian Acts, or the insidious "silent partner" practice in New South Wales. Queensland at least proffers no masquerade—it is straightout chain store.

This is what will collapse the "citadel" of our profession, will crumble our "pharmacy" into ruins, and the only remedy is a drastic one: an immediate halt must be called! This remedy lies in our own hands, so that we may be remembered by posterity in thankfulness and gratitude.

Let us use the best from overseas investigations and avoid the errors and pitfalls that mar our profession on other shores, and let us at once start renewing our own structure, so that it may withstand all the future storms of adversity.

To this end, let us retain our standard of internal organisation. It is supreme in the pharmaceutical world. To it we should consolidate a sphere of academic training, similar to that pertaining in Great Britain, but adjusted to meet Australian conditions.

As a pattern for our imitation, what better model could we choose than the legislation of France, once again with modification to fit our domestic needs, but giving us at least the same protection?

Under such ideal conditions—and these could be obtained if we only strive diligently enough—the Australian pharmacist may apply himself to his chosen career, without the cold shadow of unbridled intrusion ever casting its chill upon him.

Let us work for this cause! Let us start and rebuild our "citadel," making its foundations sound and solid, never to crumble. Let us ever reject self and that natural greed that assails all human weaknesses, and make our pharmacy a profession that shall hold the respect of all until time shall be no more.

The Old Testament gives us our battle cry:—

"To your tents, O Israel."

At the conclusion of the address members expressed their appreciation by acclamation, and thanks of the gathering to Mr. Cutler for the address was voiced.

NEWLY INSTALLED PRESIDENT TAKES OVER.

After Mr. Cutler's valedictory address had been delivered, Mr. Cotterell took the chair.

He thanked the delegates for electing him as President of the Association for the ensuing term, and said he was deeply sensitive of the honour.

The retiring President, Mr. Cutler, had set a very high standard to follow, but he would do his best and hoped that, with the co-operation of the organisations and the executive, he would succeed and that pharmacy in Australia would profit.

When the time came for him to hand over to his successor he hoped that he would hand on the torch unsullied and undimmed.

PUBLIC RELATIONS SECRETARIAT.

Report by the Chairman, Mr. I. J. Thompson.—Mr. I. J. Thompson took the dais and delivered the following report on the work of the Public Relations Secretariat since the last Conference:—

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen—

"Once again I have the honour to present to Conference the report upon the Federal Pharmaceutical Public Relations Secretariat.

"On the previous occasions when this report has been presented it has been customary to divide it into two

parts. The first part dealt with the finance and management of the Secretariat, and the second part, presented in person by Mr. Attiwill, was a general survey of the main items of interest which had occurred between the Conferences. Because of the unfortunate absence of Mr. Attiwill from this Conference, I shall endeavour on this occasion to combine both parts into one general survey of the activities of the Secretariat since the Brisbane Conference.

Mr. Attiwill's Absence.

"At this stage I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to Mr. Attiwill for the magnificent service he has again rendered to pharmacy in general, and to say how very much I regret that because of illness he is unable to attend this Conference. I am very happy to report, however, that after the expert care and attention he has received, and by strictly adhering to medical advice, he has partially resumed his duties, and in the near future should be fully recovered. He has been heartened during this enforced absence by the many letters and messages of friendship received from all parts of Australia. This has been a fine tribute, and has shown widespread approval of his service to pharmacy."

Control of the Secretariat.

Mr. Thompson continued: "And now, Mr. President, to present this report I must explain that the constitutional control of the Secretariat has been completely changed since the Brisbane Conference, and, in consequence, this report is presented at the pleasure of the Federal Council of the Guild, which is now the controlling authority of the Secretariat."

"To recapitulate, members of Conference will remember that during the first five years of establishment the Secretariat was responsible to Conference, through its original Charter, and because it was financed voluntarily by members of the profession and friendly manufacturers and wholesalers. This money has now been expended, and the Federal Council of the Guild, following upon its declaration at the Brisbane Conference, has now assumed complete financial responsibility for the continuance of the Secretariat. In fact, this means that the Secretariat is now a properly constituted department of the Guild, and is responsible only to the Federal Council for its actions. But whilst the new arrangement may appear to be restrictive for the Secretariat and detrimental to the general field of pharmacy, I can, most emphatically, assure Conference it is not the wish nor the intention of the Council to materially interfere with the established sphere of activity of the Secretariat, and whenever possible, unless diametrically opposed to Guild policy, the Secretariat will be permitted to follow its original Charter and operate on behalf of all pharmacy. It must be appreciated, of course, that the Guild will have first call upon the Secretariat, and that is as it should be, at this particular moment when the political situation is so tense, because of the important negotiations now proceeding with the Government. And, Mr. President, in mentioning the present difficult negotiations with the Federal Government concerning the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act and the Pensioner Medical Service, I venture to say that this crisis has once again proved conclusively the need of a Public Relations Secretariat."

Public Relations Firmly Established.

"We now unanimously accept the principle that any organisation which is constantly under the spotlight of the public, the press and the politician, must have an efficient Public Relations Secretariat within its organisation. Furthermore, in this high pressure political world of ours, leaders of our organisations are frequently called upon at a moment's notice to make some important decision or announcement, and at such

time it is highly desirable, even essential, that they have available the advice and services of trained personnel in the field of Public Relations. I am quite sure that the Federal President of the Guild, Mr. Eric Scott, will support this statement, and I trust that he, or any other responsible leader, will never be without this expert assistance."

Pharmaceutical Education.

"Now, reviewing some of the important matters with which the Secretariat has been involved since the Brisbane Conference, perhaps one of the most important has been concerning Pharmaceutical Education. During a debate upon this subject at Brisbane, the Secretariat was given the assignment to organise opinion on a Federal basis. It was a difficult task, one which had been attempted on many occasions, but by sheer persistence we were able to interest the responsible people, and eventually conferences were held in Melbourne and Adelaide, concluding with a final conference in Adelaide this year, which was considered to be the most interesting and productive conference ever held in Australia on the subject of Pharmaceutical Education."

Hospital and Medical Benefits Schemes.

"Next on the list of important matters attended to by the Secretariat was the attitude of pharmacy to the Hospital and Medical Benefits schemes. From the very inception of this type of social legislation the Secretariat has held the strong opinion that pharmacy should accept the opportunity to take its rightful place in the health team, and has advocated a close liaison with the reputable Hospital and Medical Benefits Associations. At first pharmacy was inclined to disregard the far-reaching implication of the new legislation, but fortunately, through the efforts of Public Relations, we have today thousands of pharmacies throughout Australia linked with Hospital Benefits Associations. Hundreds of thousands more people are coming into our pharmacies, and whilst the direct return may be small, and even questionable, the tremendous value of this service and goodwill must be apparent to all. Just think for one moment what a loss it would have been to pharmacy if this service had been organised through the newsagent or estate agent. Pharmacy has a rightful place in all health schemes, and must not forfeit it through complacency and indifference. And so we say, by persistently guiding the Federal Council of the Guild towards this objective, the Secretariat has rendered valuable service to pharmacy."

"Internal Public Relations."

"I now come, Mr. President, to the subject of 'Dissemination of news within the profession.' This is indeed an important feature of the work of Public Relations, and Mr. Attiwill with his journalistic ability is well qualified for the task. During the last six years there has been a tremendous improvement in the knowledge of members of the profession upon matters which so vitally affect them personally and economically. In fact, I would venture the opinion that as a profession we are the better informed, both ethically and commercially, than any other similar organisation or union body. Outstanding publication is 'The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy,' to which Mr. Attiwill has been a frequent contributor. The various State 'Gilseal News' have been used regularly to provide members with up-to-the-minute information, but perhaps the most important medium for the dissemination of political information has been by the Pharmacy Bulletins issued from the Secretariat. Finally we have the great daily papers of every capital city which have in a manner never experienced heretofore publicised the problems of pharmacy intelligently and informatively. Only by the close liaison of experienced

personnel could this be possible, and so this is another dividend paid by Public Relations.

"Mobility of the Secretariat."

"On many occasions we have stressed the mobility of the Secretariat, and although this is a most desirable feature of the work of Public Relations, I am afraid it is a most exhausting one, and is probably responsible for Mr. Attiwill's condition today. The Secretariat has attempted to be present at every important conference, meeting or gathering, no matter in what part of Australia, and has faithfully presented the views of organised pharmacy. We believe that personal explanation is far better than written statement, wherever practicable. The Secretariat has answered many calls at a moment's notice, and many thousands of miles have been travelled in the cause of pharmacy.

"In conclusion, Mr. President, I would like to offer my thanks, and the thanks of Mr. Attiwill, to all who have so generously co-operated with the Secretariat since its establishment. Some within this audience will remember the difficult and uncertain beginning of Public Relations, when at times our actions were openly criticised and our good intentions doubted. Thankfully, those days are yesterday. Today our highly efficient and respected department is recognised as the only voice of pharmacy.

"I would like to particularly express my thanks to salaried personnel of our organisations both in the Federal and State spheres. These gentlemen individually and collectively are really responsible for the efficiency and the power of our organisations, and the Public Relations Secretariat realises their value to pharmacy. They are more than just salaried officials, and time after time we find them unselfishly sacrificing their own leisure time in our interest. Our sincere thanks are due to them."

Discussion of Report.—Mr. E. F. Lipsham (S.A.) said he wished to take this opportunity of conveying to Mr. Thompson, as Chairman, and Mr. Keith Attiwill, the Director of the Public Relations Secretariat, his thanks for the enthusiasm with which they took up the suggestion he made in Brisbane that the ambit of the Secretariat should be widened to take in pharmaceutical education. The beneficial result of that had been demonstrated in the very successful Conference representing all States, held in Adelaide in February, 1953.

Mr. H. D. B. Cox (N.S.W.) said he had been most interested in the wide range of matters dealt with in the report and the comprehensive nature of the activities of the Secretariat. One thing which, in his opinion, might be taken cognizance of by the Secretariat was the question of price maintenance of proprietary goods.

There might not be many present who would recall years ago when, in New South Wales in particular, the chaos that existed in prices and profits in the retailing of proprietary articles handled by chemists.

In Queensland price maintenance is illegal. P.A.T.A. was there, but it was only a name.

Canada had similar legislation.

In 1945 there was a proposal put forward for legislation in Australia that would give the owner of a trade mark applied to a proprietary article the same right and protection at law as the owner of letters patent; i.e., a person granted licence to sell could not cut prices without risking an action for breach of patent rights.

Such a provision was incorporated in a Bill prepared in 1939, but it was not proceeded with because Parliament was dissolved.

A committee had again been set up by Senator Spicer to examine that Bill, with a view to the Government proceeding with the necessary legislation.

Mr. Cox said that this was a matter which, in his opinion, could be taken up with great advantage, and, if it were feasible for the Secretariat to do it, he would suggest that it do so.

Mr. W. R. Iliffe seconded the motion for adoption of the report and congratulated Mr. Thompson and Mr. Attiwill on the work the Secretariat had done.

Mr. W. Lenehan added congratulations on behalf of Queensland.

Mr. Eric Scott said that, as one closely in contact with the Secretariat, he supported very strongly the remarks of Mr. Thompson.

The activities of this department were growing. All of the problems were not outside of pharmacy.

Up to date its main use had been in connection with the crises which had been occurring in the negotiations with the Federal Government.

Mr. Scott said that in his statement Mr. Thompson had "played down" his own role. Mr. Thompson had been the mainspring of the Secretariat and had done a magnificent job. Mr. Attiwill, whose work they very much admired, would agree with that statement if he were present.

Mr. Scott said he wished to pay wholehearted tribute to Mr. Thompson and Mr. Attiwill for the splendid work they had done. (Applause.)

Mr. Little, speaking on behalf of New South Wales, joined in congratulating Mr. Thompson on his report.

Mr. Leggo said he wished also to rise in support of the remarks passed concerning Mr. Thompson's report. His department (Merchandising Department) had received the utmost courtesy and help from the Secretariat.

Mr. Collyer (S.A.) expressed the satisfaction of South Australian delegates at the report.

Mr. G. Allan, speaking for Western Australian delegates, said they wished to add their congratulations and compliment Mr. Thompson and Mr. Attiwill on the excellent work they had done. The motion for adoption, submitted by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Iliffe was put to the meeting and carried with acclamation.

Memento for Mr. Attiwill.—Mr. J. I. Richards referred to the absence of Mr. Keith Attiwill from the Conference, and suggested that Mr. Attiwill's disappointment might be lessened somewhat if some small memento were sent to him from the Conference. The suggestion was taken up enthusiastically and it was resolved that a suitable book be obtained and presented to Mr. Attiwill. It was agreed also that the delegates present should sign the fly-leaf of the book before presentation to Mr. Attiwill.

REPATRIATION DISPENSING.

The following report on repatriation dispensing was submitted by Mr. T. B. Evans, Federal Secretary of the Guild:—

Report on Repatriation Prescriptions Received for Pricing and Checking. Year Ended June 30, 1952-53.

An analysis of repatriation prescriptions for the years ended June 30, 1952 and 1953, reveals an increase of 14.4 per cent. in the number of items lodged for pricing, with an increase of 27.8 per cent. in the value of claims priced and checked.

The difference in the percentages increase between items and value is explained by the continuing increase in wholesale prices and high price recipes ordered by the local medical officers of the Repatriation Commission.

The average price per item for the current year is 9/4.3 as against 8/4.5 for the previous period. The State figures for the year ended June 30, 1953, are:—

Tasmania ..	8/10.4	Victoria ..	9/1.9
Queensland ..	9/2.1	South Australia	9/2.8
N.S.W. ..	9/4.7	West. Australia	10/8.4

The explanation of the Western Australian figure is that the local medical officers do not seem to write as many

repeats as in the other States and tend to prescribe more costly items.

Since the Guild instituted the Pricing Bureau on April 1, 1950, the number of items priced and checked has increased each year.

Some claims received for pricing cover two, three or even more years' dispensing by the one pharmacy, even though all the pharmacist has to do is to post his prescriptions to the Repatriation Commission at the capital city in his own State. Several requests have been circularised, asking the chemists to lodge their claims monthly or bi-monthly, and I am happy to report that most pharmacists are acceding to the Guild's request.

It is tedious and takes considerable time to price and check prescriptions covering more than six months' dispensing and these larger claims are left until there is sufficient time to work on the claim, the smaller claims taking preference.

At this stage it would be appropriate to mention some of the difficulties with which the pricing and checking officers of the Guild have to contend.

1. Some pharmacists are still pricing their prescriptions, even though they have been requested not to do so. If private records are required, the duplicate prescription can be priced and retained for checking against payment when received.

2. A lot of prescriptions received are quite illegible and have to be returned for clarification, which causes delay in payment. To overcome this problem, some simple notation on the prescription at the time of dispensing should be made. Similarly pharmacists have been requested to notate on the prescriptions the whole-sale costs of extraordinary items and also the brand supplied, where such brand is not self-evident. In the majority of cases this is not being done.

3. Sometimes a repeat voucher is accompanied by a duplicate prescription when claiming for the repeat only. This is misleading. The Repatriation Depart-

ment assume that the wrong form has been sent and return the duplicate with a request for the original. This is obviated by copying the prescription in full on the repeat form and sending it in for payment. This repeat form, of course, must be signed by the patient and dated.

4. Many pharmacists stamp each item dispensed with the pharmacy stamp and use the money column for this purpose. When this is done it is difficult to find enough space to write the price of the item. It is strongly requested that the money column be left blank.

5. The use of a heavy ballpoint pen for writing repeats on the reverse side of the form makes the writing on the front of the form illegible and gives needless work. This could be watched more closely by pharmacists. Also, the money column is sometimes used for repeat signatures, and even signatures for repeats are written over the printed matter at the foot of the form. The use of the repeat voucher supplied by the Repatriation Department would overcome this problem when there is not sufficient space on the prescription for the signatures for repeats.

6. The practice of giving all the authorised repeats on the one day is still in evidence in all States. The Repatriation Commission is very active on the question of repeats and the date the repeat was dispensed should be shown against the signature for that repeat. This matter has been the subject of discussion with the Commissioners in Melbourne, and, although the Repatriation Form 70 does not state that a date is required, it should be done to comply with State law.

To conclude this report, I would mention that the Guild has been for the past eighteen months negotiating with the Repatriation Headquarters for a new agreement for the dispensing of repatriation prescriptions. The new agreement is based on current Guild rates in each State, and, although we have reached agreement with the Commission, they, the Commission, are awaiting consent from the Treasury before the agreement can be signed.

REPATRIATION DISPENSING.

1951-52 and 1952-53.

State.	No. of Items.		Value of Claims Priced and Checked.		Average Cost Per Item	
	1951-52.	1952-53.	1951-52.	1952-53.	1951-52.	1952-53.
New South Wales	527,085	585,815	£217,361 2 8	£275,250 4 0	8/2.9	9/4.7
Queensland	147,988	160,522	60,120 10 0	73,705 1 5	8/1.5	9/2.1
South Australia	103,309	119,026	41,154 7 2	54,962 15 8	7/11.6	9/2.8
West Australia	70,522	89,893	33,191 19 11	48,105 0 3	9/4.9	10/8.4
Tasmania	36,351	42,194	14,354 17 2	18,721 15 1	7/10.7	8/10.4
Victoria	328,336	391,573	142,344 5 6	179,347 2 0	8/8.4	9/1.9
	1,213,591	1,389,023	£508,527 2 5	£650,091 18 5	8/4.5	9/4.3

Discussion of Report.—Mr. Pinerua (N.S.W.) inquired if, in circumstances where it was necessary to do so, all repeats of a prescription were given on the one day, could that be done if an explanatory note were written. Mr. Evans: "Yes; if the explanatory note satisfies the Department." Mr. K. Powell (N.S.W.) asked why the dispensing in the Repatriation Commission was done at a discount of 8-1/3 per cent.

Mr. Evans replied that when negotiations were proceeding an endeavour was made to find an equation between that of the P.B.A. terms, which were also under discussion. Mr. E. G. Hall (N.S.W.) asked if it was possible for the "repeat" form to be scrapped and a decent form to be substituted. Mr. Evans said the question of repeats was being discussed with the Department and the form was being revised. If members had any suggestion to make, he would be glad if they would get in touch with him. Mr. N. Keith (Vic.) asked if the new forms would be numbered. Mr. Evans replied that they would.

The reason why the present forms were not numbered was that there had been an oversight in the Department.

After further discussion the report was received on the motion of Mr. E. Scott (Vic.), seconded by Mr. E. Hall (N.S.W.).

PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION IN NEW ZEALAND.

The paper on this subject, prepared by Mr. Olver, Principal of the College of Pharmacy, Wellington, New Zealand, was read by Mr. S. E. Wright, Lecturer in Pharmacy, University of Sydney.

[This paper will be published in the October issue of the Journal.—Ed.]

The meeting expressed its thanks to Mr. Wright for his reading of the paper and it was resolved that a letter of appreciation to Mr. Olver for his contribution be forwarded.

The third session of Conference adjourned.

FOURTH SESSION—MONDAY, AUGUST 17, AT 9.30 a.m.

In opening the session, the President asked that members keep their remarks to the point so that the meeting could be adjourned at 12.45 p.m.

FORMATION OF FEDERATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION.

President: I would like to state to Conference that the women pharmacists of the various States had a conference at the end of last week, and have now decided to federate. We congratulate them on that move, and wish them success. (Applause.)

WITHDRAWAL OF ITEMS RELATING TO PHARMACY IN NEW ZEALAND.

The President asked the Honorary General Secretary to report on the position arising from the non-attendance of the New Zealand delegates.

Mr. Kent: With the non-attendance of the New Zealand representatives and no submission of papers, we have to assume that these will be deleted from the programme. No papers have been offered, and we have relied on a cablegram from Wellington indicating that the gentlemen will not be attending.

REPORT ON METRIC WEIGHTS FROM THE NATIONAL UNION OF PHARMACEUTICAL STUDENTS OF AUSTRALIA.

We have a report from N.U.P.S.A., intimating that they have been unable to complete and submit their paper, and that item must therefore go by the board.

PROPOSAL FOR A PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA.

The President: This remit from South Australia was inadvertently put into the agenda for the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies of Australia, and reads:

"This meeting of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand considers the present Coronation year an appropriate time to implement the formation of a Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, and, therefore, requests the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies to complete in this year a suitable constitution for adoption during 1954, by those States favourable to the project, so that the organisation is completed before the next Association meeting."

Mr. K. Porter (S.A.): This remit has been dealt with in the Federal Council meeting, and a decision has been reached on it. I therefore seek permission to withdraw it.—(Carried.)

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETIES.

The President congratulated Mr. W. R. Cutler on his election as President of the Federal Council, and called on him to report on the meeting of the Federal Council.

Mr. Cutler: The Federal Council met on August 13, and received a very comprehensive report from the President, Mr. V. G. Morieson, which will be printed in the Journal.

Mr. Morieson, to everyone's regret, has decided not to stand for re-election as President, and was kind enough to nominate me. Mr. Greig, of Queensland, was nominated Vice-President, and Mr. T. D. H. Allan (W.A.) Treasurer. Mr. F. C. Kent was nominated Honorary Secretary.

We recorded appreciation of the services of Mr. Morieson. We do hope that we will always be afforded the benefit of his experience. We also had, unfortunately, to accept the resignation of Mr. Fred Holmes as Tasmanian representative. Mr. Holmes has been a stalwart in pharmacy ever since I have known pharmacy. He is in very good health, but feels that the burden of

officialdom in pharmacy must be carried by younger men. Mr. David Crisp was good enough to accept the appointment of deputy delegate to the Council meeting in the absence of Mr. Holmes, and we are very grateful to him for his contribution to the debate.

Consideration was given to the proposal submitted by South Australia to implement the proposal for formation of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, and it was resolved that a Federal Pharmaceutical Society should be formed. There are some difficulties in Western Australia in regard to legislation, and during this conference it is hoped that a committee from Western Australia and South Australia should get together and examine the alternative proposal. It was desired that this particular project should be implemented at the earliest opportunity.

Royal Charter: Whilst I was overseas I made inquiries as to the possibility of securing a Royal Charter for a suitable pharmaceutical body in Australia. The ideal body would have been a Federal Society. From information I received I believe the constitution of the Federal Council would be quite acceptable in the eyes of the Privy Council. The Federal Council have decided to proceed as soon as possible with the petition, and we hope to obtain endorsement of the Federal Government.

Another very important point dealt with was reciprocal membership of Societies. This, of course, is until such time as the formation of a Federal Society can be completed.

Regarding the labelling of proprietaries, it was shown by Western Australia that certain new ethical proprietaries have come on the market with misleading names. It was discussed at fair length, but we realise that our only course could be to notify manufacturers concerned and ask them if they could assist pharmacy and medicine in future by putting on such titles as will not be misleading. The title should give a lead as to what drugs are really indicated.

Reports were presented by each State, wishing action taken to implement the resolution dealt with in Brisbane regarding advertising of professional services.

Information was exchanged on the question of the effect of National Service Training on pharmaceutical students, and with its repercussions, and we felt that difficulties in most States were being well overcome.

Owing to the retirement of Mr. Morieson as President of the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies, Mr. Long, who has been the second representative for Victoria since the inception, must, owing to the conditions of the constitution, of necessity retire from that position. His retirement was received with a great deal of regret because Mr. Long's services have been very valuable and his contributions have been very effective in implementing the policies up to the present.

We had reports of the Medico-Pharmaceutical Liaison Committees from the States. These indicate that the relationship of pharmacist and doctor is growing towards its proper trend. We discussed very briefly the desirability of a Code of Professional Conduct, but as it appears in another part of the agenda of the Association we thought it best to leave the discussion to the Association.

We have two great projects now in hand, and also some others which, I think, will be implemented. I have much pleasure in presenting the report of the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies, which met on August 13.

Discussion of Report

Mr. H. A. Brathwaite (Vic.): Reference was made to discussion that took place about Medico-Pharmaceutical Liaison meeting reports. I presume and hope that was just taken as a matter of interest to keep track of things that concern the Council of Societies, and not taking over the prerogative of this Association.

Mr. Cutler: The Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies would never usurp the constitutional rights of the Association. We took it as a report.

Mr. T. D. H. Allan (W.A.): Western Australia is opposed to formation of a Federal Society. We cannot be otherwise, because of our constitutional position.

Mr. I. J. Thompson (Victoria): Although there was a resolution in 1946 to establish a Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, the Council of the Victorian Society thinks now that that is not desirable. Victorian representatives, I believe, voted against this proposal in the meeting of the Federal Council, but I wish to indicate at this stage that Victoria is opposed to the proposal. I regret that in this report no mention has been made of the main objects or functions of the Federal Council. I fail to see in this report any discussions or any recommendations on pharmaceutical education which, to me, is the main subject for the Pharmaceutical Societies to tackle. I feel that the Federal Council should have had something to say about education.

Mr. Cutler: Firstly, it is not my duty to give any reports on the details of voting. Secondly, pharmaceutical education has a big place in the agenda of the Association. It was thought that we are going to have an open forum discussion on pharmaceutical education here. The Federal Council of Societies has done nothing but advocate it ever since its inception. Owing to the address of Sir Earle Page, we had to curtail our time, and I think it was the opinion of the Executive that a better and more open discussion would be given in this forum.

Mr. Leggo (N.S.W.): said there was no desire to usurp the Conference powers, but he thought it did not matter who put the measure forward, as long as it was good for the profession. He congratulated Mr. Cutler on his report.

Mr. Lee (Victoria): I take it there will be no discussion on item 16 (a) now that it has been deleted from the agenda. In presenting that part of the report, Mr. Cutler did not, on behalf of the Federal Council, give the Conference any reasons for such a proposal. The proposal to form a new Federal body would undoubtedly involve pharmacy in Australia in great expense. Such a recommendation should be accompanied by some very strong reasons why such an organisation is necessary, the functions it is going to carry out, and as to how such a body under a Federal panel could better carry out the functions than they are being carried out by the existing organisations. I am afraid I will have to move that the Association directs the Federal Council not to proceed further at this stage with such a proposal.

Mr. Cotterell: We will not take that at the present time. Are members in favour of the report, and willing that it be received?—Report carried.

Mr. Lee: I will now move that in the opinion of the Conference, the time is not opportune, and in view of the fact that we have no case presented, the Conference is not prepared at this stage to endorse a proposal to proceed with the formation of a Federal Society.

Mr. T. D. H. Allan (W.A.): I have much pleasure in seconding that.

Mr. Porter (S.A.): I think we should point out to Mr. Lee that this project started back in 1946. Again at Perth it was reaffirmed, and there it was resolved by Conference that the main objective of this Council should be the formation of a Federal Pharmaceutical Society. That is over six years ago. The Council, with its limited power, is definitely not to be compared with the power which any Federal organisation has. We have to make a start, and we must have recognition. We are going to get much more recognition if we are a Federal Society than if we are just a Council. It has been said that we would like to have a conference with Western Australia in regard to the difficulty which they foresee. I think that we have an answer for Western Australia. Surely with the great growth of pharmacy and the great strides which it has made commercially, we are willing to put forward a little

money for our professional status and our educational status. We know the Guild is doing a very valuable job for us, but we must keep abreast on our educational side, and the only way that educational side can be kept abreast and get some degree of uniformity is by having some fountain head where we can get some direction on policy, and where we can get some recognition on interviews which we may wish to make. I feel that with the record of the Federal Council, with the record of the Federal Guild, a body which we are proposing, shall we say in very simple words, to copy, we need no more justification for our Federal Society. (Applause.)

Mr. A. C. Fraser (N.S.W.): Mr. President, may I ask for clarification on four questions and also for permission to speak in debate at a later stage.

1. What is the difference between a Pharmaceutical Society of Australia and the present Federation of Society Councils?
2. Can the Society help in the overall improvement of the profession?
3. Can the Society cater for the needs of Western Australia better than the Federation of Society Councils?
4. Will the cost of a Federal Society be greater than the benefit will be to the profession?

The President: I should say that in the new proposed Federation of Societies every Society would have a similar constitution. Each State would be autonomous, but they would have a common constitution. In answer to question 2, I am only acting as chairman. I must leave it in the hands of Conference.

Mr. Fraser: I think Mr. Cutler, as President of the Federation of Societies, would be in a better position to answer these questions. I feel that this is a valuable question, and I would like it answered if possible rather than just turned aside.

Mr. Cotterell: I am quite prepared for Mr. Cutler to answer this question if he would like to do so.

Mr. Thompson: I believe that some Councils of Societies have not discussed this matter before coming to this Conference, and that is an important matter if it reaches a vote, yea or nay, without their Council having debated and directed their vote.

Mr. Cutler: If I may go back and refresh the memories of all present, the first organisations in pharmacy were Pharmaceutical Societies. They first of all decided that there must be some standard type of training. Having obtained sufficient ground work, they sought and obtained legal recognition in status. If they never got anything else, that was the most important thing ever obtained for pharmacy, and no organisation could have functioned if that legal recognition had not started. You became pharmacists in the eyes of the law; you had a standing. Victoria were the pioneers, and had much more foresight than the present holders of office because they called their Society "The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia." They realised that Australia would become federated. This project came up to an Association meeting after it had been passed in 1946 by Victorian delegates, by all other States, and reaffirmed again in Perth. Western Australia has always maintained the attitude in their Act, but I feel in principle they are not in discord with the project. The Federal Council of Societies received a mandate by conference to form a Federal Society in 1946. It was then submitted to a committee which found the difficulties, and to carry on, the organisation was formed as a Federal Council of Societies. We believed it should be a guiding body. States should have their rights. I feel no other questions need answering.

I contend that Mr. Lee's motion cannot be accepted because it is a definite rescinding of a motion that was on a paper for remit in 1946, and has been approved, and a motion such as that which nullifies the whole prospect of a Federal Society must be put on the agenda for discussion. Likewise do I say to Mr. Thompson, that no Council has had an opportunity of discussing under remit whether the project should be abandoned.

Mr. Greig (Qld): The Queensland Society brought this remit in 1946. We are still in favour of it, and we always will be. If the Societies wish to federate there should not be any opposition. There is no reason why they should not. There are many advantages. One is the fact that the proposal for a Federal Charter could not be sponsored by the British Society had it come from this Association. It could only come from a body of societies. I feel that in a Federal body there would be a guiding hand whereby we would get some form of uniformity throughout Australia, uniform constitutions subjecting us to our own State autonomies. We can go forward as the Guild has done in the past. They started with a small project, they started with dreams, and in the commercial field of pharmacy they have done an excellent job.

Mr. Leggo (N.S.W.): Surely the Societies themselves should be in the best position to know the advantages that they can get out of a Federal body so that they can go forward whatever Governments may be in power in the future with a uniform system of education.

Mr. Eric Scott (Vic.): I find the speakers are trying very hard to justify something which I do not think can be justified. Idealism is a very good thing, but I think thoughts should be directed into the proper practical channels. The formation of the Guild has been referred to as analogous to the formation of this Australian Pharmaceutical Society. The Guild was projected as a federation. It is a Federal body only. It has no State bodies, but merely committees of the Federal body to correlate its activities. Furthermore, the Guild arose from a formation of opinion amongst the chemists of Australia that they were not adequately represented by their present Societies and Boards, that a body should be formed to articulate their very just demands. A wave of enthusiasm from members came from below and that was the secret of the Guild's success. The formation of this body is merely a head with a body added. Education and educational legislation are the true functions of the Societies. Those are governed by six State Acts. There is no Commonwealth Act, and never will be to have a uniform system of education. We have six Societies in Australia, and now we come along with a proposal to form a Council of Pharmaceutical Societies to correlate and streamline these activities. All we do is to create another body which costs us money, which elevates people to the rank of officials. You get things done in your States by groups of men pushing together for a goal, for a central purpose, and that is why the States are active.

Mr. Fraser (N.S.W.): We should keep our thinking rational and logical. I don't agree with Mr. Scott in his contentions. I am a strong supporter of the development of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, and it is not in my mind the creation of a new body at all. It is the replacement of an existing body, and if the decision is not to have a Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, then we carry on with the Federation of Society Councils, doing somewhat similar work, but not doing it nearly so efficiently as a Pharmaceutical Society could do it. I refer to several points. One important point is the gradual unification of the constitutions of the Societies in the different States. If we can get that, that is a step forward. Then, with that in mind, the Society can proceed to get unification throughout the Commonwealth in various matters which affect pharmacy, but are controlled by outside bodies. I refer first of all to education.

It would be much better for us to have a Federal Health Act. I feel that the Society would be more effective in bringing that about than the loose constitution of the Federation of Societies.

The third point is that a Society would be much better able to bring about an improvement in ethical standards.

Mr. Conolly (N.S.W.): I am unable to follow the discussion. I thought we were discussing the adoption or rejection of a report of the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies. I contend that is the only thing you can do. Now we are discussing whether we will have a Federal Pharmaceutical Society or not. The report said that the Coronation year is the appropriate time to implement the formation of this Society. I contend the question is not whether there should be a Pharmaceutical Society of Australia or not, but whether the Coronation year is the proper time for its implementation.

Mr. Cotterell: That motion has been withdrawn by South Australia. It is not under discussion. What is under discussion is the report of the Federal Council of Societies.

A request was made for the motion to be read again. This was done—

"That in the opinion of this Conference, and in view of the fact that a case in support of the proposal has not been presented, the time is not opportune to proceed with the formation of a Federal Society, and that the Association does not endorse such action."

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite (Vic.): I don't know whether I am justified in speaking on behalf of the Association itself, but I hope I express the composite opinion of the Association. Some time ago the Federal Council of Societies was formed and was accepted and linked in some way with the Association. They were accepted, I think, with a lukewarm spirit, but they were accepted. They have had a period of years in which they could have tackled the right spheres of activity for such a body. They missed taking up and developing some very useful aspects of codes of ethics, and that was something they could have brought forward on behalf of their societies in concrete form, but they have completely missed the bus, and the Association went back and took up something they have always handled, the matter of pharmaceutical education, and I believe that the Association would have been much more active some few years back about pharmaceutical education if the Federal Council of Societies had not come into being.

Mr. Lipsham (S.A.): Listening to Mr. Scott and his sonorous phrases, one wonders really what is behind it. Similarly, listening to Mr. Thompson and Mr. Lee, one wonders of what they are afraid. The arguments that these gentlemen have produced are exactly parallel to the arguments voiced by New South Wales in particular in 1928, against the Guild. In 1928, we formed the Guild; in 1929 and 1930 we went on with the organisation, dreaming of the day when we would have an organiser to look after the Federal aspect of the whole. Over that 25 years the organisation has developed, and today we have a Public Relations Officer, Merchandising Officer and full-time Secretary. That development has come out of dreams and ideals, so I would ask Mr. Scott and company to stop their opposition to the ideal. Loyalty to a Federal Society can be achieved in exactly the way you achieved loyalty to the Guild. You are working for a personal ideal.

Mr. Lee (Vic.): Just as Federal Parliament can change its motion, it is quite in order for this meeting to reverse a decision of 1946 or any other date. We asked Mr. Cutler for reasons to be put forward for this proposal. Not one reason has yet been given as to why this proposal to form a Federal Society is necessary. There were four questions. No speaker opposing me has given us any line at all. Mr. Fraser made some mention of trying to have a uniform constitution for Australia in our Society work. Now the Society deals with education, ethics and the professional side of pharmacy. You cannot possibly have an educational basis throughout the Commonwealth until we have a Federal Act. There is no hope of getting that until we get a change in the Commonwealth Constitution.

Mr. Pinerua (N.S.W.): I rise to a point of order. It is definitely wrong for this matter to be discussed at all.

It is entirely out of order and should be left on the table.

Mr. Cotterell: I am sorry if you disagree with my ruling on the matter. I think we must look for the benefit of the Association and the Societies, and it is something arising out of this report which is quite capable of discussion.

Mr. Pinerua: This matter has not been discussed, nor has opportunity been given to the various Societies to discuss, apparently with the exception of Victoria.

Mr. Cotterell: I think I said in the early part of the discussion it was withdrawn by South Australia.

Mr. Scott (Vic.): I move the motion be put.

The motion was put to the meeting and as the majority were against, the motion was lost. Victoria and Western Australia against; Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia in favour.

REPORT FROM CONFERENCE OF PHARMACY BOARDS.

The following report was submitted by Mr. J. L. Townley (N.S.W.), who acted as Chairman of the Conference of Pharmacy Boards, held on August 14.

"The Conference of Boards was able to deal with all the matters on its agenda when it was in session on Friday, August 14.

The legislation passed in each State since the Brisbane Conference was reviewed, and details given of the provisions in the various States relating to the registration of overseas chemists not covered by the terms of reciprocity. Action taken by each State to implement the suggestions made at Brisbane regarding uniformity of procedure for registration under reciprocal agreement now in force.

Temporary Registration (Border Towns).—No action was proposed, although Victoria desired that the matter be not abandoned.

Publicity Regarding Poisons.—The Victorian Board representatives were in favour of Boards taking more active steps to enter into discussions with newspapers regarding matters affecting poisons. They felt that a great deal of good publicity could be achieved by this means, and as an example of good publicity a newspaper cutting was circulated.

Poisons Legislation.—Full discussion ensued on the Poisons Acts of the various States, and the consequential effect of the banning of heroin as an import.

Standardisation of Tablets.—Following discussion, the following resolution was passed: "That it be a recommendation of this Conference of Boards that the Standards Association be asked to set the standard sizes and weights for tablets of scheduled poisons contained in poisons schedules of Australia, presented in more than one strength."

National Service Training.—Conditions affecting National Service Training in all States were found to be broadly identical, and all States reported close co-operation with the National Service Training authorities.

Reciprocal Agreements.—The Conference re-affirmed a previous decision that all Registrars should advise other Boards when the name of a chemist was struck off the Register for misconduct.

Model Poisons Law.—Five principles enunciated by Mr. Lipsham in connection with his suggested Model Poisons Law were adopted, with slight amendment. A sixth principle was incorporated. Arising out of the discussion it was resolved: "That the Conference of Boards is of the opinion that it is desirable that uniform scheduling of poisons be achieved and that the only satisfactory way to do this is for the Federal Government to call a conference of State bodies to include a pharmaceutical representative from each State, and that a representative of the Conference should discuss with Dr. Medcalfe the way in which such a conference could be arranged."

General Business.

Education Matters.—Conference recorded the fact that it was anxious to hear of the results of discussions

which will take place in conference proper on this subject."

Mr. Townley moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Greig (Q'ld.) seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. L. Hamon (Vic.) asked for a full report on the validity of prescriptions for dangerous drugs in which the prescriber is not registered as a medical practitioner in the State in which the prescription is presented.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite: This validity of prescriptions for controlled drugs written outside the State in which they are presented concerns the Boards. After discussion no solutions were offered, and it was suggested that we may get some progress if it was carried to a Federal Medico-Pharmaceutical Liaison Committee meeting. We would like the Association to take up that suggestion for us.

Mr. F. W. Avenell (W.A.): I think it should be recorded that Western Australia was not in favour of the suggestion for immediate action to the Commonwealth Health Department to call a meeting of State authorities. We consider that more negotiation and unanimity should be reached between the pharmaceutical representatives of the various States before it should reach Commonwealth Government level. I feel that the first step is for the State pharmaceutical authorities to get together, reach some agreement, and then would be the time to approach the Government.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite (Vic.): Because there are different bodies administering the poisons requirements in various States, and because some of the bodies lie within State Departments rather than exist as autonomous bodies, it is difficult to get the appropriate people together. For that reason it was suggested that an approach be made to the Commonwealth.

Mr. A. Fraser (N.S.W.): My only comment is what better argument could you have for a Pharmaceutical Society of Australia?

WITNESSING DOCUMENTS.

"That Pharmaceutical Chemists be authorised to witness official documents." (New South Wales remit.)

Mr. Leggo (N.S.W.): I understand that a similar motion was passed at a previous meeting of the Association. The prestige of our profession is affected when one picks up a document and sees that the postmaster, the school mistress, the clergyman and everybody but the registered pharmaceutical chemist is looked upon as an honourable witness to certain official documents. I move that we pick up this matter again.

Mr. C. G. Gostelow (N.S.W.) supported the suggestion.

Miss I. MacGillivray (Vic.), on behalf of the Women Pharmacists of the Federation, spoke in favour. She said: "We are asked to witness pensioners' documents and all sorts of other things, and I have felt this disadvantage many times, particularly as I have to direct them to a Justice of the Peace."

Mr. E. W. Braithwaite (Vic.) said he thought the motion was only for a matter of expedience. He did not think it would raise the status of pharmacy, but cause more work with little benefit.

Mr. I. J. Thompson (Vic.): This matter was discussed at a meeting of the Victorian Liaison Committee, and it was decided to vote against this proposal. On the submission of further evidence on this proposal, the Council of the Society decided to support the New South Wales proposal.

Mr. H. Fitch (W.A.): My Council has given this matter consideration, and is opposing the motion on the ground that the additional work should not be given to those chemists who do not wish it imposed on them.

Mr. Pinerua (N.S.W.): I would like to support Mr. Leggo's resuscitation motion on one point—the matter of prestige. I really cannot see where Western Australia's objection is. Whilst their Council may have decided not to support this matter, I wonder if the

volume of work they would give to it would be such that would cause any worry. It would give you an increased customer traffic and that is a good thing.

Mr. G. Nolan (Q'ld): I do not see why we should waste an hour at this meeting passing a trivial matter. I have permission to sign documents, and I think to give that permission would only bring worry on the chemist and waste a lot of their time.

Mr. Lee (Vic.): I can speak as one who already has this authority, and I can assure you you don't know what you are letting yourselves in for. While it is a very worthy service, there is no knowing the time it will involve. Conference should know that.

Mr. F. W. Avenell (W.A.): I have been a Justice for the last 20 years, and I find it does occupy a lot of time, but I was prepared to give that service to the community. At the same time I feel it is not fair because I am willing to do that that I should say to every pharmacist, because your name goes on the form you have got to sign documents whether you like it or not. That is the position.

Mrs. Dawson (Tasmania): I think the chemist will be the obvious person to go to, and I think it will entail a lot of work. Not everybody knows a J.P., and a clergyman may be otherwise occupied; I think probably the pharmacy is a pretty obvious place to go, and I think pharmacists would be ready to take on this extra work.

Mr. Holloway (S.A.): I hold a commission as a J.P., and while the duties are at times onerous, I feel it is a service we can and should render to the public. It does take up a fair bit of time, but you gain the goodwill of the public.

The motion was put to the vote and declared lost.

THE TITLE, PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST.

"That the Association press for the adoption of the title 'Pharmaceutical Chemist' in lieu of the combine form 'Pharmacist' in the Acts of Parliament, Regulations and elsewhere." (New South Wales remit.)

Mr. Leggo (N.S.W.), in submitting the motion, said: It is our title—it is our right. From time immemorial the man who dispensed a bottle of medicine in the corner shop was the "pharmaceutical chemist." As years went by we came to use the word "pharmacy," and on top of that many of us became careless and we clipped the title to pharmacist.

With the advance of science, with chemistry coming into the foreground and with chemist societies forming, there are people today who have a very strong influence who would be glad to take from us any rights to the title chemist. If we give up it will be an indictment on us in years to come.

Mr. E. Scott (Vic.): I have much pleasure in seconding the motion from New South Wales. I prefer the term "pharmaceutical chemist" as being more descriptive. The public know us by one word only—they call us "chemist." I think we should do something to again advertise the word "chemist" back into its original meaning.

Mr. J. Little (N.S.W.): I can support what you said about the usage of the word "chemist." I heartily endorse that. I have much pleasure in supporting the motion.

Mr. Lipsham (S.A.): I have not heard as yet in this discussion any instance quoted of where the word pharmacist is used in a legal enactment. To the best of my knowledge and belief throughout the Commonwealth the Poisons Regulations and Laws and the Poisons and Drugs Regulations refer exclusively to "pharmaceutical chemist."

Mr. Lee (Vic.): Pharmacist is used in P.B.A. Regulations.

Mr. Greig (Q'ld): I am quite in favour of the motion. Regarding the term "pharmaceutical chemist," I think it is one we can all press for. I do not think the

motion needs very much discussion or debate. I am quite happy to support the motion.

Mr. Long (Vic.): I cannot see why we should take so much objection to the word "pharmacist" as to the words "open shop."

Mr. Avenell (W.A.): I do not think anyone has yet proposed this, and it seems to me that we are wasting time if everyone is going to vote in favour of it.

Mr. Porter (S.A.): I do support it, but I think we should publicise the word "pharmaceutical" especially to the press.

The motion was carried.

PACKAGING OF PROPRIETARIES.

"That the unsuitability of some of the forms of packaging of Prescription Proprietaries be discussed." (Victorian remit.)

Mr. Iliffe (Vic.): This is a matter that has exercised the minds of the Victorian Branch of the Guild and P.D.L. over considerable periods. You will recollect that in the report that was given of the Association's activities, that it was stated that the Guild withdrew from the organisation of the Drug & Allied Trades Council in which this question was discussed. It was because of the inability of that particular body which consisted largely of manufacturers to come to any finality on the subject that the Guild considered its withdrawal.

In regard to tubes of ointments which have painted and/or lithographed labels, we contend that the manufacturer would be well advised to provide us with a product which we can use for dispensing purposes without removing paint from that tube, or presenting our customers with an article which is not in the best of pharmaceutical interests.

There is danger, particularly with ointments, as a pinprick might be made in that tube when removing a label and some of that solution could enter into that tube, causing damage, and involving us in legal action for compensation.

Paper labels would be liable to be damaged in transit, yet some firms produce labels that can easily be slipped off such tubes. Therefore, we submit that there is no trouble as far as the manufacturer is concerned.

Mr. Iliffe described in some detail the trouble experienced in removing varnished labels from bottles, and also difficulties in labelling bottles of a peculiar shape.

Mr. Moore (Vic.): P.D.L. directors are tackling this question from a slightly different angle, inasmuch as in Victoria we had one case where a mistake was made in dispensing a .5 ampoule for a .05 ampoule. We consider that partly the reason for it was the indistinct labelling that led to investigations on the part of the Victorian directors as to what could be done to improve these various labels.

In regard to tablets, it is suggested that all tablets labels have a plain background with the necessary print in small black type, the whole being overprinted with the strength of the tablet in red, nearly the size of the label.

Another point which is possibly more an ethical one is the packing of a preparation in tinfoil clearly labelled with the name of the article. Whether the doctors do not mind the patients knowing what they have prescribed for them is a matter of conjecture. With your permission I would like to move the motion:

"That all States be asked to furnish the Conference Executives with lists of ethical packages which are considered not satisfactory for purposes of dispensing, and after consideration by the Executives, the manufacturers concerned be contacted with a view to obtaining the improvement considered necessary."

Mr. Iliffe seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT.

"That the Association draft a code specifying standards of professional conduct for pharmaceutical chemists." (New South Wales remit.)

Mr. H. W. Read (N.S.W.): The wording of the remit may not appear to allow for the existence of the present code, but we submit this for two reasons: (1) We feel that the present code is not adequate, and (2) that it has been pigeonholed over the years. It therefore gives much pleasure to present to Conference this draft of professional conduct for pharmaceutical chemists. (Copies of draft code circulated.)

The President: Quite a lot of members have not received a copy of this proposal, and I do not think it would be fair that we should discuss the matter whilst they have not had time to digest it. I will rule that it be deferred.

Mr. Lipsham (S.A.): I protest at its being considered at this conference at all when we have not had an opportunity to consider it. It should be deferred until next meeting.

Mr. Cotterell: I think that a motion will be taken on that, but later.

Mr. Lipsham: My motion is—

"That this matter be deferred until the next conference in that insufficient notice has been given to the large amount of detail that it contains."

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite: I will second that, if Mr. Lipsham will allow me to add to his motion that this set of standards on professional conduct as prepared by New South Wales could well be directed back to our State bodies for consideration, and their opinions to be forwarded to the Executive in the near future.

Mr. A. Fraser: If between now and the next conference, there is formed a Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, and they obtain a Royal Charter, will it not be a requirement in order to get that charter that we have a model set of professional standards? If so, we may be in error in deferring this matter until next conference.

The President: I understand that we have a code of ethics, which was adopted in Canberra in 1939. There is a negative motion and to my mind requires a remit that a different code of ethics be adopted, I am, therefore, accepting the motion of Mr. Lipsham, seconded by Mr. Braithwaite, in that spirit.

Mr. Cutler (N.S.W.): The code of ethics which you refer to is not known to exist by many members. If a constitution is accepted without a code of ethics, I do not know whether the existing code of ethics exists legally.

The President: Whilst we have a code of ethics, that remains until something else is put forward.

Mr. K. Cartwright (N.S.W.): I would like to move **"That this matter be deferred until a later time at this conference, after members have had time to read and study the matter better."**

Mr. Hall (N.S.W.): I would like to second the motion. A mass of those codes were distributed last Thursday, and for anybody to move it be deferred for nearly two years makes it rather ludicrous.

Mr. Lipsham (S.A.): The point that this applies to New South Wales has not been previously made clear. Had this been made clear in the first instance, I would not have put forward my motion. I wish now to withdraw it.

Mr. Cotterell: Mr. Read, does this apply only to New South Wales?

Mr. Read: We are trying to implement it in New South Wales. If the Conference, in its wisdom, thought it a better code than the existing one, we would be very happy for the Association to adopt it. We do intend it to apply in New South Wales.

Mr. G. D. T. Allan (W.A.): I am afraid that with the meagre information that we had about this remit, I have not the power from the Westralian Branch of the Guild, which I represent, to vote on this point. All we have is a draft of a code specifying standards of pro-

fessional conduct for pharmaceutical chemists. I consider that that draft should be returned to the various bodies for clarification and acceptance.

Mr. K. H. Powell (N.S.W.): If this Conference sees fit to adopt the code of ethics as has been set out, New South Wales has no desire to thrust our projected standards on others. We have no desire that it should be mandatory on everybody that is associated within this organisation, and if that is W.A.'s view, I would sincerely like to see this remit gone on with in the light that our code of professional conduct which we have prepared is merely a basis of discussion and a proposal to assist other organisations in their deliberations.

The President: It is merely for New South Wales, and if the other States wish to consider it they can. Whilst we have a code of ethics, that still remains until a remit has been submitted asking for a change.

Mr. Lipsham: Under your assurance that this is to be for New South Wales only, I have no wish to proceed, provided that Mr. Braithwaite is willing.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite: I am rather reluctant to go with Mr. Lipsham, because an existing code of ethics does call for overhaul. I cannot honestly expect people to vote and reach a recommendation in the Association without being guided by the principal bodies of the Association from whom they came as delegates. I am rather reluctant, but I will go with Mr. Lipsham.

Mr. A. Fraser (N.S.W.): Would it be possible under our constitution to have the remit reworded and resubmitted to this Conference later? I feel that there has been some misunderstanding because of the wording, and a rewording may be satisfactory to Conference. It can be brought out and dealt with very quickly at a later stage of this Conference.

Mr. Cotterell: I think that could arise out of Mr. Read's report. I will give him permission later on in the Conference to make any extension of this, but I must maintain we have a code of ethics, and until something has been given to the contrary, that remains in force. Will you, as members of this Conference, give permission for Mr. Read to give any remarks on this paper at a later stage of the Conference?

Conference agreed to this.

Mr. K. Porter (S.A.): I feel that Mr. Braithwaite did not completely relinquish his hold on that motion, and I do not think the approval which you granted to the New South Wales people really affects that. I think we should have something in our records whereby there will be some action taken.

Mr. Cotterell: That is in my mind. A motion could arise out of this paper of Mr. Read's for recommendation to the Association.

Mr. K. Cartwright (N.S.W.): Providing the matter is heard at this Conference.

TELEVISION.

"That the Association appear before the Royal Commission on Television to protest against broadcasting of unethical advertisements for pharmaceutical lines." (New South Wales remit.)

Mr. Conolly: This remit arose out of some of the advertisements heard on the present sound broadcasts. Some are overdrawn, and, in fact, to the chemist, they are ludicrous. The matter has been mentioned in the press, and since then I have had representations from a body in this State to enquire whether I was correctly reported. The trend of my remarks was correctly reported, but not the exact words. The Press Association is very disturbed that we should be discussing this matter at all here today. The advertisements in the press in Sydney are not so bad as the radio advertisements in relation to certain medicines, remedies or cures. The Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales is represented on the Newspaper Accreditation Bureau, which exercises a censorship on advertisements. Not all Sydney newspapers are affiliated with the Accredited Bureau. We are more concerned with the air than the press. This blatant rubbish over the air will

not increase or maintain the prestige of the pharmaceutical chemist. It was thought that this matter should be brought before the Royal Commission on Television, to ensure that some body is set up to peruse the items which have been televised, just as it has a voice in the Newspaper Accreditation Bureau. The eye is more liable to be attracted than the ear, and it is therefore important that televised items should not lower the prestige of the pharmacist. We suggest that this Association is the appropriate body to send in its views, and that we should be represented through the Association on any body which can be formed to vet. advertisements before they go over television. They have to be submitted to Canberra before they can be broadcast. I do not know who does the job of cen-

sorship, but they have a peculiar attitude. You have heard many advertisements put over which are in very bad taste, and I would like formally to move the resolution which the Chairman read to you.

Mr. Hall (N.S.W.): We are very concerned about advertising in all forms of pharmaceutical preparations, and I have much pleasure in seconding this motion so ably put by our Secretary.

Mr. Richards (Vic.): I think this should have the wholehearted support of Conference. If we can stop such drivel and tasteless inaccurate advertisements by putting our views before the Television Commission, I think it can do nothing but good.

The motion was carried, and the Fourth Session closed at 12.45 p.m.

FIFTH SESSION—MONDAY, AUGUST 17, AT 2.15 p.m.

PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION.

The session opened with an address, illustrated by slides, by Mr. E. J. Nicholas, of Perth Technical College, on "Practical Pharmaceutics at Perth Technical College."

[This address will be published in the October issue of the Journal.—Ed.]

DISCUSSION OF ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS.

Mr. I. J. Thompson (Vic.):

Mr. Thompson expressed his pleasure in listening to Mr. Nicholas, and also at having seen on a recent visit to Perth the work in operation at Perth Technical College. He was very impressed with the educational value of students preparing products that were for actual use by patients.

Mr. E. F. Lipsham (S.A.) congratulated the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia on the rapid progress which has been made.

Mr. A. W. Callister (Vic.) added his congratulations. He said he had never seen anything so comprehensive, in any State of the Commonwealth. He liked the spread of work that Mr. Nicholas gave. Wonderful progress had been made in a remarkably short time.

Mr. H. W. Read (N.S.W.) said he wished also to compliment Mr. Nicholas and Western Australia. He asked (1) Is the course concurrent with apprenticeship or full time? (2) Why is it necessary for Third and Fourth Year work in the laboratory to be done at night?

Mr. Nicholas: "It is a concurrent apprenticeship. The reason for the work continuing at night was that the students would have more time for pharmaceutics. We have not yet had an opportunity for pharmaceutics to be dealt with in the daytime, but I do not think it will be very long before we get it."

In reply to a question by Mr. Long (Vic.), Mr. Nicholas said that one of the advantages they had in W.A. was that apparatus could be constructed at the Technical College. Very often ideas for apparatus came from students, and they got the Engineering Department draftsmen to draft out the ideas and resubmit them. Then the plan was sent to the pattern-making shop, and foundry, and cast in brass. They had a fitting and turning shop where it could be made.

Mr. Lipsham (S.A.) expressed appreciation to Mr. Nicholas on behalf of the members assembled for what he had brought before them, and to congratulate him and his Council on the very great progress which had been made.

Mr. Callister (Vic.): I have very much pleasure in seconding that motion.—(Acclamation.)

ITEM 24—(a) CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ADELAIDE CONFERENCE.

Mr. W. Iliffe (Vic.) asked for and was granted permission to withdraw Section (d) of this remit, Nos. (i), (iii) and (v),

These sections related to (i) Standard of Entrance Examination; (iii) Minimum equipment in training pharmacies; (v) Continuity of training and studies.

He said that much of the matter in those three sections would come up under Section (a).

Mr. J. I. Richards (Vic.): "I concur with Mr. Iliffe with regard to omitting the above items. d (ii) and d (iv) are the ones we most want considered by Conference. No attempt was being made to bind Conference to any course of action. Could they not formulate a course which would be satisfying to all States? Queensland, with its great distances, could not implement any scheme in the same way as, say, Tasmania. New South Wales was already committed to a bold and laudable experiment. Conference would wish to see that succeed, and it was pleasing to see a man of the calibre of the N.S.W. Minister of Health co-operating in putting new ideas to fruition.

The second question which might be asked was, why should the Guild rather than the Society be the father of these remits?

The Guild was a commercial organisation and the Pharmaceutical Society an ethical and educational body; therefore, it might be argued, the most appropriate source from which any educational reform should proceed.

The answer was obvious: the Guild realised that a well-trained apprentice was a business asset.

Mr. Richards moved:

"That Conference urge State authorities to make a careful examination of the Course of Colleges of Pharmacy for elimination and modification of subjects that are archaic and irrelevant to the competent performance of the work of a pharmaceutical chemist and for the introduction of subjects that have a practical bearing on such work—e.g., business practice, cost accounting and relations with the public—and that provision be made for revision of the Course, from time to time, to meet changing needs."

He said he hoped delegates would return to their various States and discuss all the matters, concrete or otherwise, that had been spoken about because it was only by discussion and by thought that they would come to fruition. The welfare of pharmacy, ethically and commercially, as well as educationally, was in the hands of the youngsters. If they were given a good education, it would benefit pharmacy generally, and the individual would have a better chance of becoming a good pharmacist.

He moved also the adoption of Item d (iv), which was as follows:

"A strong representation that student bodies should be invited to state views on the general principles of pharmaceutical education."

Mr. D. W. Campbell (N.S.W.) seconded both propositions. He said educational policy was very close to him, possibly because of his youth and because last

year N.U.P.S.A. was very much concerned with the educational policy which had been adopted in New South Wales. He drew attention of delegates to the N.U.P.S.A. platform on education, i.e.:

1. There must be a matriculation standard or equivalent for entry;
2. A three-year full-time course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Pharmacy;
3. A full twelve months served in a pharmacy after that;
4. Post-graduate course possibly leading to a Master of Pharmacy degree.

Pharmacy, he said, was changing very rapidly, and students and the educational policy must change with the times. It is obvious that the education of pharmacy students must be changed in such a way that it is in accordance with the general movement of health, medicine and pharmacy. He would admit freely that he was not adequately trained to train an apprentice. The majority of chemists, if they were honest with themselves, would admit that also. He thought education should be placed under the University or the Technical College so that the students would be trained in a way that they would render a greater service to the community. They felt it essential that they should have some shop training, and gave particulars of the system in operation in Ontario.

Discussion.

Mr. Callister (Vic.) said much of Mr. Richards' motion was covered in the Adelaide report. There was a resolution that there was room for the introduction into our courses of social sciences and relations with the public. There was in Mr. Richards' motion the question of the representation they might get for the assistant. There was not much room for doubt that the student could make a substantial contribution. The implied statement in the motion that the course of training must not be static is not realistic for training is never static.

Mr. L. Long (Vic.) said their courses were far from static. This was evidenced by the New South Wales experiment. While overseas he had a lot of discussion with leaders in pharmacy as to what sort of qualified person would be required for pharmacy over the next decade, and it is only recently he has noticed in overseas journals that they were realising the standard they wanted.

The pharmacy student of the future was not going to be satisfied with today's conditions. He would have very little interest in buying or selling goods. Hospitals were taking a greater interest in pharmacy departments from a manufacturing point of view. This was going to absorb a lot more of our students.

Mr. H. Fitch (W.A.) asked that the two parts of the motion be divided before submission to the vote. In regard to Part d (iv) he thought that students' bodies' opinions would be welcome in W.A., provided the members of the student bodies were qualified chemists, but they did not agree that the student should express views on what he should be taught.

Mr. Nicholas had quoted the students for the help they gave in designing apparatus, but not in the preparation of courses of study. They felt that there is still room for the master to train the apprentice and that that was the best system.

Mr. W. R. Cutler (N.S.W.) said he was pleased that students did voice their opinions. They are in the formative years and could often put forward a good idea. He had for long been a strong advocate that students' views should be received and judged on their merits. The Guild and the Society should go hand in hand in this matter. The Guild could make a good contribution by encouraging ethical standards and practice among Guild members in the general practice of their business. He heartily supported Mr. Richards, but they should not let commercialism overwhelm them.

Mr. E. Hall (N.S.W.) said New South Wales delegates must of necessity support the motion, because they had already done the very thing that these two motions required.

Mr. I. J. Thompson said he would like to tell the Conference the position in Victoria. The whole question circulated round:

1. The system of education; whether it be academic University education or the system of concurrent education during the whole apprenticeship period;
2. Their status in the health team. Mr. Adam Meldrum had called us the "right handmaiden of the medical profession." During recent years there had been a rapid rise of pharmacology and therapeutics, and previously the pharmaceutical chemist was not as competent to enter into discussion with medical people;
3. The education of our graduates in business principles.

The Dean of the Victorian College of Pharmacy, Mr. A. T. Sissons, had been sent abroad to make an extensive and comprehensive survey of these three problems on behalf of the Victorian College of Pharmacy. Whilst awaiting his return, they had brought in some of the recommendations of the Adelaide Conference. He wished to assure Conference that Victoria would not permit its education system to be static. Mr. Sissons has stated that it is flexible; it must be flexible if it is going to be educational.

They were waiting for two important things:—

- (a) the report of their Dean, so that, together with the Dean as educationist and the Council of the Society as practising pharmacists, they could co-ordinate both thoughts;
- (b) a new College of Pharmacy.

They had outgrown their shoes and we could not do very much more, but with better resources and better facilities, he felt they would go very close to the ideals of the New South Wales system of education.

Mr. W. F. Pinerua (N.S.W.) said a word of warning should be uttered. Mr. Long postulated a rather unhappy future for pharmacy, and it could be very right. They would eventually reach a stage where they would have highly specialised and highly trained men who had lost touch with the fact that pharmacists have a duty to the public.

Educational problems were once ignored. It had now become a question: "How clever can we make these fellows?" They might reach the stage where they could destroy themselves.

Pharmacy was in a peculiar position. He would not deny a student any of his academic training or rights thereto, but the student had to realise that he occupied a position in the community for which he had battled for years. They were trying to raise the standard of the pharmaceutical chemists, the man in business today, but on the other hand we had teachers coming in amongst them who would like to see their side of the picture built up to the exclusion of the business aspect of pharmacy. Conference should take heed and consider the fact that this academic training must go hand in glove with the business aspect.

Mr. T. D. H. Allan (W.A.) supported the remarks of Mr. Pinerua. He pointed out that the chemist was a professional man, but had to stand on his own feet. He was not like a professor drawing a salary in a university. If a chemist was going to make a success of himself, he must necessarily learn business. The chemist of today would still be the chemist of the future.

Mr. E. E. Nye (Vic.) said he would like to use a phrase which Mr. Sissons used: "We are concerned more with evolution than revolution." If those present who qualified about 25 or 30 years ago compared those days with the present, they would say: "This is a revolution." They would be wrong. It had been a gradual evolution. If one thought of the practice of pharmacy 25 years ago and compared it with today,

they would see that, over the intervening quarter of a century, change had been gradual.

Mr. O. Leggo (N.S.W.): "I strongly object to being referred to as 'the handmaiden to medicine.' Pharmacy is a confederate of medicine. A lot depends on the way we refer to ourselves in our profession."

After some further discussion, the two parts of the motion were submitted separately, and both were carried.

Item 24 (b): Statements from a representative of each State concerning reception of, and action on, the Adelaide Conference as recommended.

Deputation Suggested.

At this stage Mr. E. G. Hall (N.S.W.) submitted a motion recommending that N.S.W. should arrange a deputation to the Minister of Health on the question of expediting implementation of the new course.

The chairman ruled that this was a local matter and that without due notice he could not accept such a motion.

Mr. I. J. Thompson (Vic.) said that at the Adelaide Conference Victoria was a participant and fully concurred with the recommendations at that Conference. Because the Dean of the Victorian College was abroad, they were unable to include some of the principles in their curriculum. The lectorial staff had made every effort to include in the curriculum during the year some of the recommendations. Victoria would go wholeheartedly behind the Adelaide Conference recommendations.

Mr. R. S. F. Greig (Qld.) said the Queensland Society also very heartily endorsed the general principles enunciated at Adelaide. They had not recommended any of its ideals up to the present because their educational system required some legislature, and at the moment they are not disposed to make the required alterations.

Mr. H. Fitch (W.A.) said the Western Australian Council was quite in accord with the resolutions of the Adelaide Conference. They agreed that the entrance qualifications for pharmacy should be of uniform standard; they agreed also that the examination of the course in pharmacy to eliminate irrelevant subjects and introduction of subjects to meet changed needs was good. They were agreed that master pharmacists must have prescribed standard of qualification and adequate standard of dispensing before being allowed to take apprentices.

Mr. D. Crisp (Tas.) said that in Tasmania they had heard with great interest the report of the Adelaide Conference, and were implementing a new syllabus under the guidance of Dr. Burgin. They would implement some of those recommendations. They had tried to build up an entrance standard from Schools Board to matriculation, and in doing so required all students at the end of the first year to take matriculation at the University examination in the subjects of Chemistry, Science and Botany. They must pass in two of those three subjects.

Mr. E. F. Lipsham (S.A.) gave an interesting story of the developments and changes in Adelaide. First of all he wished to make it clear that the overall position regarding certificates was unchanged, namely that since 1933 their qualified pharmacist has received two certificates: (1) the Diploma in Pharmacy of the University of Adelaide; (2) the Registration Certificate of the Pharmacy Board. On the other hand, the recent changes in schedules of studies have been considerable, the courses being now divided into four yearly examinations. The student is required to be absent from the pharmacy for the purpose of attending lectures and for study for

- 3 full days during the first academic year.
- 2 full days during the second academic year.
- 1 full day during the third academic year.
- 3 full days during the fourth academic year.

In the other 22 weeks of the year the student is full time in the pharmacy. In this way travelling between pharmacy and University is eliminated. This block of time for study and block of time for practical experience expressed in days per week is the best one for Adelaide, where the population is close to the city.

The First Examination: The changes in the First Year course have now been running two terms, and will be completed this year. These provide, in addition to the old subjects of theoretical and practical Inorganic Chemistry, what we call Pharmacy. This is divided into three parts:

Part A includes Elementary Pharmacy, i.e. elementary dispensing and elementary manufacturing, with both theory and practical sessions.

Part B is the History of Pharmacy. For this purpose five pharmaceutical chemists each take a section of Pharmaceutical History and expound it for the benefit of the students. They start off with the history of the newer drugs—the antibiotics, hormones, etc.—and then go on to the history of International Pharmacy, and then move on to the history of the Students' Association of Australia. The lectures then pass on to British pharmaceutical history from the time of Elizabeth I to Elizabeth II. The third term will be devoted to Ancient History of Pharmacy plus a continuation of the history of the pharmaceutical organisations of Australia—Boards, Societies and Guild, and a little bit of information on the pharmaceutical history of the warehouses. History is therefore a live subject, and has up to date been a very great success from the students' point of view; they have shown a marked interest because it introduces them straight away to the calling which they have chosen.

Part C of Pharmacy I is further divided into a number of sections, one of which is a series of lectures and demonstrations which will lead to the student receiving the official certificate of St. John Ambulance Association. There is also a series of lectures on surgical dressings with practical work as well. These lectures are illustrated by a number of films.

The third term will include a series of six lectures in Sick Room Practice—clinical thermometers and articles of that type. The tuition given in Pharmacy I is essentially practical everyday pharmacy.

The first year therefore consists of seven sections—three are essentially of a scientific nature; one is essentially drawn from Arts, and three are of specifically pharmaceutical application.

The overall position is that two important things have been evolved—(1) What appears to be a satisfactory answer to a big problem in tertiary education. Previously students have been taken from secondary schools with the atmosphere of the college or high school, and put into a big group in the University and left to sink or swim. Under the new system there is a transition period which has proved helpful. (2) An answer to the traditional complaints of masters about time off for lectures.

This change has particular regard to the question Pharmacy I—Part A—Elementary Dispensing and Elementary Practical Pharmacy. Mr. Lipsham said, "We went into that course with a good deal of apprehension, as we had always taught Pharmacy I in the second year of studies. Conditions are now different, and we are no longer worried with the amount of student time taken up or how much time is being spent away from the pharmacy. The student is available for lectures all day, and so tuition has been extended in Elementary Pharmacy and Dispensing, hence, if the pharmacists give up their first year apprentices for three full days, we can return to them a student who is sufficiently trained in elementary dispensing and manufacturing to be an asset during the second, third and fourth years of apprenticeship.

The Second Examination, which will not start until next year, includes the two old units dealing with theoretical and practical Organic Chemistry plus

Biology of Science I standard. We have thus widened out the study of biological sciences, and evolved an academic year of three scientific subjects.

The Third Examination which will start in 1955 includes a new unit called Botany and Pharmacognosy. This is a composite unit made up of two portions of older courses. This course will start in the second year, but will not be examined until the third. However, the major portion of the study during the third year will be devoted to Pharmacy II, which will be essentially the manufacture of preparations of purified chemicals and their assay. In the same year the subject of Commercial Pharmacy will be taken. The other section of the Third examination is the question of practical experience. This includes the delivery of inspection of 50 galenicals and the supplying of evidence of having dispensed at least 1000 prescriptions. Recognition has been obtained in the University calendar of the system of the Pharmacy Board being responsible for the supervision of this latter section of studies.

The Fourth Examination will start in 1956. Attendance will be on the basis of three full days of study time and 2½ days in the pharmacy; as in previous years, the long vacation being entirely spent in the pharmacy. The first unit in this year is the question of manufacturing pharmacy—preparing extracts, concentrated infusions, tinctures and so on. Another section will deal with practical dispensing over a wide field. Then there will be a third small unit dealing with Forensic Pharmacy, including the study of the Pharmacy Act, the Dangerous Drugs Act and the Food and Drug Regulations which deal with poisons. Consideration will also be given to those general principles of human relations which are important to the pharmacist.

Another new course will start in 1956 under the heading of Pure Pharmacology. The work will include both quantitative and qualitative biological assay. There is also to be a course in Bacteriology. Mr. Lipsham stated that he had asked Professor Macbeth about an advanced course in Organic Chemistry having a pharmaceutical bias, and the Professor suggested the title of Organic Medicinals. This course is to be taken by Mr. Bowey, who is at present studying Organic Chemistry as a further series of studies to those which he completed last year in obtaining his B.Sc. degree.

The other units are Social Biology and History of Thought, hence there will be nine sections of studies in the new fourth year course. Of those, Pharmacology, Bacteriology and Nutrition can be classed as scientific subjects, Social Biology and History of Thought as Arts subjects, leaving Manufacturing, Practical Dispensing, Forensic Pharmacy, Organisation, Organic Medicinals as being the pharmaceutical aspects of the final year.

The criticism has been made that there are too many small units. The answer is that we believe that it is only by a collection of small units that you can adequately cover the needs of pharmaceutical chemists who are to practise in the retail sphere. Mr. Lipsham said, in conclusion, that if more information was desired, it was readily available. He wished to thank his colleagues in South Australia for their wonderful help, and to acknowledge South Australia's indebtedness to Professor Macbeth, because without his help nothing could have been achieved.

Mr. N. C. Cossar (Vic.) asked if there were any trouble in congregating apprentices in the metropolitan area. Were all students apprenticed in the city?

Mr. Cotterell: Not altogether. There are quite a number of apprentices coming from the nearer country towns. They are in town for three days attending the University, and they do the travelling in their own time, or if necessary they board in town for the three days.

Mr. Cossar (Vic.): You do not experience a flood of apprentices in the metropolitan area?

Mr. Cotterell: We have not had that experience as yet.

Mr. Hamon: If the course is full, is any provision made at all for the country student?

Mr. Cotterell: There is no correspondence course in South Australia. We have had apprentices from country towns. There is a five-year apprenticeship, and they serve a certain time in a pharmacy, and then come to town and do their lectures. I would like to thank you, Mr. Lipsham, and representatives of various States for their comments on the Adelaide Conference discussions.

Item 24 (c) Review of the position in relation to practical training in the pharmacy and the offer of the Federal Council of the Guild to co-operate.

Mr. Cotterell: Mr. Leggo was given the opportunity of putting this remit before Conference, and I think the questions should be addressed to him, so we will do that later on.

Item 24 (e) That a short course of instruction be compiled dealing with service over the counter, customer satisfaction, presentation, etc. (New South Wales remit.)

Mr. Cotterell: Would Mr. Scott or Mr. Evans report on that?

Mr. T. B. Evans (Vic.): We had a report at the educational conference in Adelaide, and we put forth two or three suggestions, but the Federal Council has not yet had an opportunity to debate the suggestions. I think some line on education of the master pharmacists and apprentices should be placed on record.

Mr. Leggo (N.S.W.): I would like to support Mr. Evans.

The session closed at 5.15 p.m.

SIXTH SESSION—TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, AT 9.30 a.m.

Greetings from Mr. L. W. Smith.

In opening the Sixth Session the President announced that there was a cable from Mr. Les Smith, from Toronto, Canada: "Please convey greetings to Conference."

MR. JEWKES ADDRESSES CONFERENCE.

Mr. G. G. Jewkes, Director of Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Services, Canberra, was introduced by the President, who invited him to address the Conference.

Mr. Jewkes said he had come to hear Mr. Scott, and was not prepared then to make any statement in regard to that. In relation to pharmaceutical benefits, he felt at this stage of the negotiations between the Guild and the Government that it would be unwise for him to comment. There is no need, in his opinion,

for pharmacy to believe otherwise than that the Government and the Public Service were ready and willing to provide a fair deal for pharmacists.

Mr. Jewkes proceeded to discuss the question of professional conduct in relation to dispensing services.

He pointed out that inspectors, appointed under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act, had procured and had submitted for analysis a variety of preparations dispensed by chemists throughout the Commonwealth; also that the results obtained disclosed that an unexpectedly high proportion of the preparations examined failed to meet ordinary dispensing requirements.

He informed the meeting that it is the policy of the Government to submit evidence in regard to all cases of sub-standard dispensing to the State Committees of Inquiry now being set up.

Mr. Jewkes went on to say that while such measures may have a strong deterrent effect, the real solution

rested with pharmacy itself. The profession should put its own house in order. He, therefore, appealed to the Pharmaceutical Society to give earnest consideration to this matter, with a view to taking whatever steps they deemed appropriate to correct this unfortunate state of affairs.

Discussion.

The question of testing of prescriptions by the Department of Health was discussed. Mr. Jewkes said the results in the early stages were disquieting, and that some people seemed to think this may have been due to unfair sampling. He thought it needed education or some other means to make those chemists, who are taking a careless view of their responsibility, awake to a full realisation of what it meant to pharmacy.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite agreed with Mr. Jewkes that there are some careless people in pharmacy, but suggested that the results of tests should be received very cautiously. Making an analysis of a compounded preparation was not easy. Some would take months. The Pharmacy Board of Victoria had made some checks, and had found a reasonable standard of work prevailed.

Mr. F. N. Lee (Vic.) said they were concerned over the charges that have been made on a number of occasions by the representatives of the Health Department. We know that there are some people who will sacrifice their reputation for gain, and will do things a good chemist will not do. These people were few, and the Government had the remedy in its hand.

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Act and the Pensioner Service Regulations should provide for the disciplining of those who did not play the game.

Mr. N. Keith (Vic.) suggested that Conference should make sure that they are not hearing criticism. They should acknowledge Mr. Jewkes' information as information and not as criticism.

Mr. J. I. Richards (Vic.) asked: What is the limit of tolerance? There is a certain exactitude which is required for some work which is not looked for in others?

Mr. Jewkes: "I did not come here to make charges. I came to bring these things to your notice in order that the Association may be able to appreciate the problem."

The question of tolerance is going to be a factor as to what is required. A chemist cannot be held responsible for a manufacturer's article which claims to be B.P., and he would not even be warned if he bought it in good faith. We are not confining our investigations to the retailers. We have already investigated a number of manufacturers' drugs that have been sold under P.B.

Mr. Cotterell: I would like to thank Mr. Jewkes for coming along and giving us this address, which we do appreciate. We realise there are persons in pharmacy who are not a credit to the profession, and we have no sympathy with them, but these people to whom one's warnings should be addressed very seldom attend our meetings.

PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS AND PENSIONER MEDICINE SCHEME.—REVIEW BY MR. ERIC SCOTT.

Mr. Eric Scott, Federal President of the Guild, addressed Conference on the subject of negotiations with the Government concerning Pharmaceutical Benefits and the Pensioner Medicine Service. He said, as intelligent people, those present would have read the correspondence that had been circulated, and would be au fait with the position up to the start of this meeting.

It was obvious when the Commonwealth Government notified the Guild that they desired to reduce the terms under which chemists would operate P.B. and P.M.S. Contracts, it was their duty to ascertain from members what they thought of it, because they, as officials, were officials only so long as they represent the voice of pharmacy.

As soon as they ceased to do that, they became dictators.

It was his privilege, therefore, to go out amongst some 2000 chemists, and put the position fairly and squarely to them. At every meeting they unanimously rejected the Government's terms, and instructed him as their speaker to tell the Government they would accept nothing less than the terms on which they were operating at present on P.B., and they wanted several anomalies cleared up.

It was easy for mass hypnotism to take place in meetings and for members to echo back to you your own thoughts. One therefore had to be careful in taking undue notice of the hands that are raised.

It was abundantly clear, however, that pharmacy in the whole of Australia today was dissatisfied with the present proposals of the Government. Armed with that knowledge, the Guild wrote to the Health Department and set down what we intimated were our objections, viz.:

1. The attack by the Government on chemists' professional fees;
2. Emasculation of the Thomas Table;
3. Reduction of "on cost" from 33.1-3 per cent. to 20 per cent.

On the first point the Government had given way. On the "on cost" the Government had restored the refund "on cost" which was, of course, a discount on our private rates; but on the Thomas Table the Government remained adamant.

In regard to the Pensioner Pharmaceutical Benefits, the Guild protested against the present scheme, and finally said that we wanted Pensioner Medical Benefits done under Guild Rates less 8.1-3 per cent. to bring it into line with Repatriation dispensing. The Government's reply was to introduce their scheme.

Mr. Scott said every single phase of the discussions had been placed before the chemists of Australia. There was not a single move in the course of the negotiations of which members did not already know. The Guild had said at the start that the final terms would be placed before the chemists of Australia before a decision could be given. The position they had taken was that pharmacy was prepared to undertake Government work at a certain figure. Anything less than that must be rejected, unless pharmacy conceded part of the original demands.

It was not expedient for him to go to a plebiscite at this stage, and the Federal Council meeting in Sydney that week had endorsed that attitude.

To his utter amazement, he had found that during these negotiations the Government was printing a list, and in that list was putting the terms and conditions that they had stated in one of the letters.

Everyone knows well that while negotiations are proceeding, the status quo remains, but not in this case! During negotiations, while everything is friendly, proceeding to agreement, the Commonwealth Government orders this list to be circulated to chemists.

Mr. Scott said he did not think laying down of tools was the province of a professional body, but he did say they had to preserve some dignity in the negotiations. They had played their part in this contract ever since it had been in force. They had given the Government good service. They would keep on giving the Government the same service, provided their rights were respected and their just demands met. "Who is to evaluate our just demands better than ourselves?" asked Mr. Scott.

It was most important, Mr. Scott said, that the terms laid down were correct terms, and not terms imposed on them. Unless they got fair terms now, they would never get them.

He did not believe they should use power, and he did not believe the Government should use power to arrive at a conclusion of the terms. The proper way, he thought, was to set out what they considered just and reasonable terms. The only people who knew really how the Thomas Table reacts on the fabric of pharmacies over the whole of Australia were the

chemists. The instrument must be mobile enough to cover all types of pharmacy.

Mr. Scott said the Thomas Table must be used in its entirety, and he discussed its operation. He said he had asked Sir Earle Page on two occasions to take pharmacy's case to arbitration and its decision would be abided by, but that had not been accepted. There was nothing to fear by the closest of investigations. He said he deplored these charges that were made against the family of pharmacy rather than against individuals in pharmacy; but the case for pharmacy as submitted to the Department of Health was unanswerable.

In conclusion Mr. Scott said he wished to pay tribute to Mr. Jewkes for the work he has done in the Department of Health for the Government and for pharmacy. Because of his knowledge, Mr. Jewkes had to take a departmental view of the serious things that occur. If he criticised, it was not unjust, because he must know the other side as well. (Applause.)

Discussion.

Mr. L. Long (Vic.) asked several questions:

1. Does the increased amount of dispensing (if any) that has resulted from the implementation of P.B.A. warrant the contract rate which chemists are being paid for dispensing service to the Government?

2. Has any further thought been given to the question of setting up a Pricing Bureau?

3. Is it the Government's intention to pay for the accepted mode of dispensing, or do they wish to pay for a scientifically 100 per cent. accurate dispensed prescription?

Mr. Conolly (N.S.W.): I am afraid delegates were stunned by Mr. Scott's statement that even now the Government's printing presses are printing booklets for chemists containing the terms which the Government has fixed, and that these booklets will shortly be sent out to pharmacists who will be expected to swallow them as they are. No denial has come as to the correctness of Mr. Scott's statement, but may it not be that it is purely an oversight that this printing of rates is going on? I cannot envisage the thing would be deliberate.

Mr. Powell (N.S.W.): As these booklets are apparently in the post, would not this be an opportune time for the letters which the Government has asked to be published to be sent out so that pharmacy in general can take the necessary time to read and digest them, and arrive at his own individual interpretation?

Mr. Hall (N.S.W.): The trouble appears to be the three-page letter from the Minister which Mr. Scott has referred to. Would Mr. Scott be able to give a precis of the letter?

Mr. N. Keith (Vic.): I would like to support everything Mr. Scott has said relating to the Thomas Table. The wastage is only heavy on small quantities, and it is most essential that the Thomas Table should apply to everything. If it does not apply to both fast and slow movers, the return is not sufficient to cover very heavy wastage on slow movers. The fact that the Government will claim that they are paying for more tablets than they are getting is wrong, in that they are not directly paying for more tablets. They are paying a loaded rate for broken quantities. The packaging charges on small quantities are very heavy, and that is why a loaded rate has to apply to everything.

Mr. C. M. Audley (N.S.W.): What is wrong with pharmacy? Pharmacy is only part of a general scheme. The Minister must have something at the back of his mind if he is intending to take a line against pharmacy. Pharmacy has been given way to in its main points. I would ask if the negotiations are finished. The word rejection should not be used. There has been no instruction given on closing the door. I think more information concerning negotiations should be given to private members.

Mr. A. Fraser (N.S.W.): There are many parts of this scheme which would serve to more than offset the previous speaker's contentions in favour of it. I agree entirely with Mr. Scott that the Government has not established a case for any removal of an item, even though they quote extraordinary figures in some respects. The Minister in his last letter quoted the figure of 15,000,000 tablets having been paid for which were not actually supplied by chemists. If we consider the exclusion from the wastage tables of mixed sulphas, we come into the question of the variety of brands. There is no one brand that is bought in any large quantity by chemists, and in that respect alone the wastage factor becomes more necessary because of the large number of brands having to be stocked and the small containers they have to be taken from. As regards printing of the lists, I prefer to take an optimistic view, but I agree with Mr. Scott that if these lists are issued it is a distinct double-cross. I feel that publishing of the letters would be a mistake. Mr. Scott has assurances from a large number of chemists that they are prepared to stand behind the negotiating committee, and when these National Health schemes were first mooted, the Guild was appointed as the spokesman for pharmacy throughout the Commonwealth, and that has never been altered. The negotiating Committee still stands, and negotiations must continue to the stage of acceptance by the negotiating of the final arrangements, and then is the time to publish this information in the form of a plebiscite.

Mr. H. G. Collyer (S.A.): Mr. Keith and Mr. Fraser, I would like to remind the Association that we had the Minister on our platform last week thanking us for our co-operation and telling us that the Government had already been showing dividends with the Health Scheme, and now they want to turn around and cut the rate. I support the last speakers.

Mr. F. N. Lee (Vic.): Referring to P.B.A., members do not seem to appreciate the fact that today virtually we have no contract with the Government. The previous contract by action of the Government was gazetted on December 1, 1951. We have no automatic adjustment in dispensing fees. Since then there have been a number of increases in the basic wage. The Government claim they are not liable to pay us the increases, and in that way alone have saved many thousands of pounds. We have had to pay more for labour since that date. Government action since December, 1951, has shown that it can reduce any particular price or fee or in any way alter the terms of contract.

The Government was referring to half gramme tablets. If this transfer is going to be made from the wastage table, it should apply to individual items and brands. It should be on the individual brands. The Government should not group all the items that are paid for under any item number. We need the wastage over the whole range, and the Government accepted in principle the wastage idea. I think the Government will have to realise that the average member of the profession is suspicious of the Government's attitude in this matter. I think the rank and file member is particularly restless about the whole of this Government work. In relation to P.M.S., we have virtually to sell very hard to the rank and file that they come in on the averaging scheme for drugs. The Government cannot see why we need any change in the system of pricing. Quite frankly the members of our profession are not prepared to accept any longer the amounts being paid for P.M.S. The question of repeat vouchers was never accepted by the Government. We were entitled to a small consideration for the vouchers which we had to write out. We are using repeat vouchers at the rate of dozens a day. Today it is unpaid service for the Government, and we do not intend to continue any longer without an adequate return for that work. Our new Repatriation agreement has been held up by Treasury instruction till

the present P.M.S. contracts are signed. It is 18 months since we reached agreement with the Repatriation Department at Guild rates less 81.3 per cent. Why should the Health Department under Treasury instigation offer something less? If this distribution of books comes about, it will precipitate a crisis.

A member (N.S.W.): I feel very perturbed about this new book, and cannot share Mr. Fraser's optimism that the Government is just printing the book and holding it until such time as agreement is reached. What is the position if the Government issues that book to us on September 1, and instead of returning it to the Government, we retain it? What is the legal interpretation? "You retain the book, therefore you agree to our policy." That point must be borne in mind, and Mr. Scott should be in a position to give pharmacists direction as to what should be done with the books, and he should be supported in his actions.

Mr. G. H. Dallimore (W.A.): The time calls for absolute loyalty to our leaders, now more than ever. It is not easy to ask our men to send the books back, but that is the only way, or try to prevent them from being sent out. We have told the Minister that we will dispense only on certain conditions. If we waver we are absolutely gone. P.M.S. dispensing is done at terrific discount.

Mr. L. W. Palfreyman (Tas.): I will support Mr. Scott's remarks very strongly, except up to the point of sending the books back. They should be prevented from being sent out.

A member (Qld.): I agree with the stand being taken at our meeting, and I am sure Queensland will stand wholeheartedly behind the Guild in its attitude. If we accept this offer of the Government, another one will be thrust on us in a month's time.

Mr. Jewkes: I do not want to enter into controversy with the speakers. It is my job to negotiate with the Guild, and I would prefer in all cases to discuss a lot of the points at issue with the Federal Council. I am not suggesting that a lot of the statements are made with malice aforethought, and I really believe that many of the speakers think what they have said is right. They do not know all the facts. With regard to the printing of the list on September 1 in relation to inclusion of the sulpha drugs, it is a fact that this is printed, but I would like to point out that the Guild itself was aware of this fact early this month. In regard to the wastage table, the Government has suggested that certain lines should not be subjected to a high wastage where their turnover does not warrant such a high wastage. There should be two wastage tables—one in which great velocity of turnover should be dealt with, and another section with lower velocity of turnover should come under a different table in order that the return might be equitable. It is merely substitution of a new wastage table. In regard to the question of increased business that has been created by P.B.A., I don't want to quote Government figures, but private prescription dispensing has risen from 18 per cent. to 30 per cent. It is a fact that there is no contract. I think the Guild also was agreeable on that. The old contract would lapse, and the position at that time made it important that there should be a review and a new contract drawn up.

Mr. Hall (N.S.W.): I would like to ask if we are to understand that the Guild agreed if a preparation under P.B.A. had a dispensing velocity of 50 per cent. overall, this second wastage table would apply. The prescribing of sulphadiazine must be considerable, and is it a fact that it represents only 10 per cent. of P.B., and if so, why has it not been restored to the Thomas Table from the wastage table?

Mr. Jewkes: I can only reply that I am not aware that it has, but I would like to impress all concerned that the point that is raised is the number involved. If there is an agreement come to which is suitable for both parties, I can say that the Government will strictly carry that out.

Mr. Scott: Mr. Hall wished the Government letter to be read. (Letter read.) This letter has been pre-

pared for publication to the chemists of Australia to give them a false impression. If it is your wish that this letter be sent to a plebiscite, we will cover it with a letter setting out the facts.

In answer to Mr. Long's question—Does the increase in dispensing warrant a decrease by the Government?—we have endeavoured over the year to take figures in dispensing in Australia to see if it provides a profit. There are very few pharmacies in Australia which totally segregate their dispensing department and charge everything that comes from the shop into that department. It is our considered opinion that dispensing does not pay. Therefore, the more dispensing we do, the more money we lose. It is of great importance that the rates be adequate to cover any loss. You must have extra staff at the wages applicable, and you will have to get a very considerable and constant turnover to return that money to you. It is a question of making the money at the front of the shop pay for the services for which you are qualified.

Mr. Long's next question—"On what basic factors was P.M.S. pricing based?" It has always been our practice to divide the ounce by 6 and the pound by 12. The divisors should be 7 and 14, and the Government exhibit a good deal of hurt pride that we have shifted our ground on our application for P.M.S. terms. There has been such dissatisfaction at the averaging scheme over the whole of the Commonwealth. We have been deluged with requests to get members some respite. We notified the Government that averaging would have to cease from a certain day. We negotiated with the Government for a scheme of pre-pricing. This would involve chemists in a great deal of clerical work, and some simpler scheme should be devised. That involves the issue of price lists separate from the ordinary Guild one, and the Government would be forced to distribute six different price lists in Australia. The charge for Repatriation is the Guild rate less 81.3 per cent.; the present Pensioners Service agreement is about less 25 per cent. Every meeting endorsed Guild rates less 81.3 per cent. Our new agreement attempts to bring the Guild rates up to date.

Mr. Audley was courageous enough to get up and oppose the desire for a new contract. He said pharmacy was only one part of a gigantic scheme. It is the only part we are concerned with, and we must see that pharmacy gives back to us what we seek, and unless that part of the scheme is profitable to pharmacy, it loses interest for us.

Mr. Audley again says we have no instructions from meetings to cease negotiations. We never ceased negotiations. We think the Commonwealth has ceased negotiations by the publishing of the price list.

Mr. Powell says that these letters should be published in the form of a plebiscite. If you think that negotiations are now ended, I suppose the next step would be to publish the letter as a plebiscite. If you think negotiations are still in progress, it would not be ethical.

Mr. Powell again says if there are any strike-breakers, have we any power to discipline them. No power at all, as we are an entirely voluntary Society.

Mr. Jewkes makes great play of the velocity of turnover in the Thomas Table. Velocity of turnover is entirely useless if it does not appear in your pharmacy. Theoretically, Mr. Jewkes and his answer are perfectly right; practically as it applies to pharmacy he is entirely wrong.

N.S.W. Remits.

After the conclusion of the discussion, Conference proceeded to consider the following remits submitted by N.S.W.:

"That Conference express its dissatisfaction with current practice concerning—

- (a) reduction in price of Pharmaceutical Benefits without adequate notice;
- (b) removal of Pharmaceutical Benefits from the formulary without notice;
- (c) restrictions upon the prescribing of Pharmaceutical Benefits without notice."

Mr. J. Little (N.S.W.): The remits are self-explanatory.

Someone might say it is like digging a wound—don't dig unless there is pus present. The above-mentioned points are anomalies that have occurred much to the sorrow of many chemists. New South Wales wants this Conference to affirm what we have been trying to do over the last few years.

Mr. G. D. H. Allan (W.A.): I have very much pleasure in seconding this motion.

The President read the remits, and asked voting delegates to vote on the item. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. N. Keith (Vic.): I think this Conference should show that they approve of the action of the negotiating Committee which is representing this Association. I would like to move

That this Conference supports and endorses the action of the negotiating Committee, and especially supports the continuance of negotiations along the present lines.

Mr. Hall (N.S.W.) seconded, and the motion was carried.

Mr. A. E. Conolly (N.S.W.) moved and **Mr. E. G. Hall (N.S.W.)** seconded the adoption of the following remit:

"That an Action Committee be set up to assist the Association Executive to follow up and press the implementation of resolutions carried at Conference."

After discussion, in which **Mr. H. A. Braithwaite (Vic.)**, **Mr. I. Long (Vic.)**, **Mr. K. S. Porter (S.A.)**, **Mr. R. S. F. Greig (Q.)**, **Mr. D. Crisp (Tas.)**, **Mr. H. D. Fitch (W.A.)**, **Mr. K. Cartwright (N.S.W.)** and **Mr. H. Martin (S.A.)** joined, a vote was taken and the motion declared lost.

COAT-OF-ARMS FOR ASSOCIATION SUGGESTED.

Mr. A. E. Conolly (N.S.W.) moved item 27 (ii):—

"That the Association apply to the College of Heraldry for the registration of a coat of arms."

His State, he said, was of opinion that application should be made for registration of a device appropriate to the Association.

Mr. Hall (N.S.W.) seconded the motion. He said he understood that the Association could not get a Royal Charter under its present constitution. He thought, at least, they should get a coat of arms.

In a reply to a question by **Mr. Long (Vic.)**, **Mr. Conolly** said he understood that the cost would be at least £50.

Mr. Powell (N.S.W.) said he thought the matter of finance should be left to the executive. Conference should decide whether it wanted a coat of arms.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite (Vic.) suggested that more discretion be allowed the executive, in view of the doubt expressed about the cost of registration.

Mr. Hall said he was prepared to accept that suggestion and would be happy if the motion were extended to indicate that action be conditional on costs being within the scope of the Association's finance.

Mr. Conolly also assented, but expressed the opinion that the executive should advise the affiliated bodies as to the cost.

The motion, amended as agreed, was submitted and carried.

The session closed at 12.30 p.m.

SEVENTH SESSION—WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, AT 9.30 a.m.

DEATH OF MR. JAS. LITTLE.

Whilst delegates were assembling for the Seventh Session of Conference on Tuesday afternoon, August 18, **Mr. J. Little**, Acting President of the N.S.W. Branch of the Guild and a most active member of the N.S.W. Conference Organising Committee, collapsed and died in the Conference room. Delegates were profoundly shocked on hearing the tragic news, and Conference was adjourned.

The Seventh Session opened on Wednesday, August 19, at 9.30 a.m., when the President asked the delegates to stand in silence as a mark of respect to their departed colleague. It was agreed that appropriate messages of sympathy be sent to Mrs. Little and family.

The remaining Sessions of Conference were carried through in a subdued atmosphere, the grief of the delegates at the passing of a loved friend being apparent throughout.

Contentious aspects of agenda items were avoided and debate curtailed so that essential matters were concluded before Conference adjourned.

THE A.P.F.

Report of the Editorial Committee: The following report was read by **Mr. E. E. Nye**, a member of the Editorial Committee:—

The Editorial Committee of the A.P.F. has met regularly during the past 15 months or more. Apart from the period of illness of **Dr. Stanton**, referred to in the Report of the General Secretary, the Committee has met almost every week. A complete revision of the A.P.F. has been undertaken in preparing the forth-

coming new edition. Portions of the draft for the new volume have been circulated among the State A.P.F. Revision Committee for comments. Every suggestion and criticism received from these State Committees has then been given the fullest consideration, and though this has occupied a great deal of time, it has been of much assistance to the Editorial Committee.

Arrangement of Contents.

In accordance with views expressed at Brisbane in May, 1951, the formulary and hospital sections have been amalgamated. Other sections have been re-arranged in an order more in keeping with their relative claims to prominence. At the present stage the contents of the new A.P.F. would appear to be as follows:—

1. Preface.
2. General Notices.
3. Monographs.
4. Formulary—Preparations for use in the treatment of disease.
5. Pharmaceutical Section.
6. Miscellaneous.

For the information of members of the Conference, a few remarks might be made regarding these sections.

The Preface, coming first as one opens the book, is the last section to be written, and therefore has not yet been written.

General Notices.

In the Seventh Edition the very important information on Prescribing and Dispensing Practice was tucked away after the formulary and hospital sections. The Editorial Committee believe that this matter is too important for so inconspicuous a place, and have gathered it, with other material of importance to the dispensing chemist, into a new section, General Notices. The whole of the existing material has been revised and brought up to date. This has been necessary particularly in regard to emulsifying agents. Information is now given on compatibility of emulgents,

cationic and anionic drugs, and bases for ointments and creams.

The sections on Isotonic Solutions, Hydrogen Ion Adjustment and Buffer Solutions have been rewritten, and the Committee is greatly indebted to Mr. S. E. Wright, of the Sydney University Pharmacy Department, for his valuable assistance in this connection.

Monographs.

This section is designed to set out standards for certain non-official substances used in A.P.F. preparations. Among these are such substances as Alkylphenethox (Lissapol), Calamine, Chlorophyll, Sorbolene, and Triethanolamine Alginate.

Formulary.

Into this section are gathered the preparations for actual use in the treatment of disease. It naturally forms the largest section of the book, and it is out of the question to attempt any discussion of individual formulae. It may be of interest to mention briefly some of the changes and new preparations, though those I will mention will not include all the new items.

Applications—a new title given to certain preparations hitherto known somewhat inaccurately as lotions.

Examples are:—

- Applicatio Dicophani.
- Applicatio Dimethylis Phthalatio.
- Applicatio Gamma Benzeni Hexachloridi.
- Applicatio Hydroxyquinolinae.
- Applicatio Laurylis Thiocyanatis.
- Synonym: Lethane Hair Oil.

Collectoria.—Liquor Thymolis Composita and Glycerinum Thymolis Rubrum of the Seventh Edition are now to be more correctly titled *Collectorium Thymolis Albrum* and *Collectorium Thymolis Rubrum* respectively. As in all other cases of a change of the name of a preparation, the former titles will be retained as synonyms.

Collyria will include formulae for Contact Lens solutions.

Dusting Powders will now include:

- Consersus Dicophani.
- Consersus Gamma Benzeni Hexachloridi.
- Consersus Hydroxyquinolinae.
- Consersus Undecylanatum.

Cremores: The section devoted to creams which was introduced experimentally into the Seventh Edition has been thoroughly revised and extended. They are naturally emulsions of either oil-in-water or water-in-oil types, and to make the distinction clear the titles of the oil-in-water (water miscible) creams end with the word "Aquosus;" and the titles of the water-in-oil (oil miscible) creams end with the word "Oleosus." Notes are given on the uses of the creams of each type. Further notes are given on the ionic characters of the creams, anionic, cationic and non-ionic, in extension of the information given in the General Notices referred to above. The Committee has given a great deal of thought to this section of the formulary, and feels confident that the new set-up of the creams will prove helpful to both physician and pharmacist.

Guttae Ophthalmicae: The Eye Drops are at present under re-revision. At the moment one cannot say more than that this section of the formulary will undoubtedly be more extensive and more valuable to the oculists than hitherto.

Among other new formulae occur the following:—

- Liquor Alkyl Phenethoxidi.
- Liquor Alkyl Phenethoxidi et Cetrimidi.
- Liquor Cetrimidi Concentratus.
- Liquor Cetrimidi Spirituosus.
- Magma Triethanolaminae Alginatis.

A protective preparation which appears to have a possible future as a protection for the skin against oils and organic solvents.

- Unguentum Dithranolis Compositum.
- Unguentum Blyethylanglycolis.

Pharmaceutical Section.

Into this section are gathered formulae for preparations not of themselves used in the treatment of disease, but used in preparations included in the Formulary Section of the A.P.F. Here there are, therefore, formulae for colourings, flavours, vehicles of various types, emulsifying agents, thickening and suspending agents.

Miscellaneous Section.

Poisons and Antidotes, Removal of Stains, and other material are for convenience included in the miscellaneous section for the time being. Revision of these sections is in progress now.

Prescribers' Edition.

In accordance with the decision of the Brisbane Conference, a Prescribers' Edition of the A.P.F. will be prepared. This must of necessity await until the draft of the Chemists' Edition is complete. In the Prescribers' Edition the formulae will be presented in terms of doses. There will be no pharmaceutical section.

Therapeutic Index. The Committee has given much thought to the precise form this should take. The work is now well in hand, and the Committee trust that its inclusion will greatly enhance the usefulness of the A.P.F. to the medical practitioner.

The Editorial Committee is of the opinion that, while careful preparation of material for the new edition may appear to be somewhat slow, it is much to be preferred to the exercise of undue haste. The Seventh Edition had to be rushed through as a matter of urgency. As a result errors were not noticed, and some mistakes made, which maturer consideration would have prevented.

The Committee has greatly appreciated the assistance given by A.P.F. Revision Committees in the various States, and by a number of individuals and firms who have given information and assistance in many special instances.

The reference, made by the General Secretary in his report, to the vast amount of time and energy given by Mrs. Manning in her role of Secretary to the Committee, is richly deserved. Her continuous assistance has made possible the achievement of what has been so far accomplished, and the Committee is deeply grateful to her for her co-operation.

DISCUSSION OF REPORT.

Mr. A. W. Callister (Vic.) asked that the Association authorise the appointment of Mr. Nigel Manning as a co-editor of the A.P.F. He said Mr. Manning had been of great assistance, and so had Mrs. Manning.

Referring to the selection and rejection of material, Mr. Callister said the Editorial Committee had discarded a considerable amount of older types of formulae, but there was always a necessity to attempt a middle course. Many prescribers used the older type of formulae, and there was always the possibility of the A.P.F. functioning in a wider sphere under Commonwealth Health schemes. That was the basis of their retention of the older type of formulae.

The principal hospitals in Victoria had agreed that, while they publish formularies for their own special use, they would for common formulae use the A.P.F. In this way they had made a big advance in getting a general acceptance from the prescribing hospitals for A.P.F.

Mr. Callister outlined the new features and set-up of the A.P.F., and spoke of monographs which would be sought from all States. He thought that the monograph would become a strong feature of the A.P.F. It was proposed, he said, to have a therapeutic index, but Dr. Stanton's illness had caused some delay. He felt that before long there would be a book in front of members of which they would be very pleased.

In conclusion, Mr. Callister made a special plea for

the furtherance of the A.P.F. in the States. Dr. Stanton, who is the Lecturer in Materia Medica to Final Year Medical Students, has made it a practice of presenting each of these students with a copy of the A.P.F., and Mr. Callister recommended that course in other States.

Where a prescriber was left to his own resources, a young graduate would fall back readily on the product of the manufacturer.

Mr. Callister said that the book would be packed with information for the prescriber and the pharmaceutical chemist. He seriously commended to Conference that active steps be taken to introduce the A.P.F. to medical men in all States; discuss it, and find where it could be used to protect them. He hoped it would be of much value.

Mr. E. Hall (N.S.W.): New South Wales has much pleasure in moving that the report of the A.P.F. as given by Mr. Nye and Mr. Callister be received.

Mr. L. Hamon (Vic.) seconded the motion. He asked if it would be possible to bring out a Prescribers' Edition at the same time as the other.

Mr. Callister (Vic.): "I am certain the two editions will come out almost simultaneously."

The President, on behalf of all the delegates, extended congratulations to the Editorial Committee on the wonderful job that they had done, and expressed sorrow at the illness of Dr. Stanton and Mr. Callister. They were delighted that they are restored to health.

The motion was put before the meeting and carried.

Mr. E. Hall (N.S.W.) moved the adoption of the recommendation arising from Mr. Nye's report re the appointment of Mr. Manning to the position of co-editor.

Mr. Cutler (N.S.W.) seconded this motion, and wished that a record might be made of the appreciation of all the work which Mrs. Manning had done.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite (Vic.) said he thought it would be a nice gesture if the Association were authorised to send some tangible appreciation of her work to Mrs. Manning, and suggested that this should be added to Mr. Hall's motion.

Mr. Cutler seconded this motion, and it was carried.

STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT.

"That the Association revise the code specifying standards of professional conduct for pharmaceutical chemists." (New South Wales Remit.)

The President said the Executive suggested that the present code of ethics and draft code from New South Wales should be circulated to all States, and that the States be asked for a report to be sent back to the Association.

Mr. Hall (N.S.W.): I would like to support the recommendation of the Executive.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Fegent and carried.

QUOTATION OF PRICES BY MANUFACTURERS.

"That the Association approach manufacturers urging that the only price to be quoted to doctors by detailers in respect of ethicalbe be the Guild dispensed price." (West Australian Remit.)

The President asked Conference to approve the suggestion that Federal Council circulate this remit to the various States.

Mr. H. Fitch (W.A.), on behalf of the Western Australian Guild which submitted this remit, moved that action as outlined by the President be taken.

The motion was seconded by **Mr. Hall** and carried.

BUSINESS EDUCATION.

"That a short course of instruction be compiled dealing with service over the counter, customer satisfaction, presentation, etc." (New South Wales Remit.)

The President suggested that, as the Guild had offered co-operation in the educational programme, he thought

this matter could be handed over to the Federal Council of the Guild for discussion at their next Federal Council meeting.

This was moved by **Mr. Hall** and seconded by **Mr. H. A. Braithwaite**, who thought the Federal Guild would ask its State Branches to implement a programme of composite education in this field, including apprentices, assistants and masters in short courses.

The motion was carried.

SCIENCE SECTIONS AT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS.

"That the Association discuss the desirability of introducing a scientific section at Association Conferences." (West Australian Remit.)

After a short discussion, **Mr. Nicholas** moved that the matter be referred back to the States. This was seconded by **Mr. Hall** and carried.

CONDUCT OF PHARMACIES.

(Remit from New South Wales.)

(i) "That the Association take steps—

(a) to implement the resolution carried at the Brisbane Conference that the pharmacy laws throughout Australia be amended, where necessary, to provide for one man one shop."

The President expressed the opinion that it would only be necessary for Conference to reaffirm the decision recorded at the Brisbane Conference.

At the suggestion of **Mr. W. R. Iliffe (Vic.)** discussion of this remit was deferred until members of the Federal Council of the Guild were in attendance.

(Remit from New South Wales.)

"That the Association take steps—

(b) to secure alteration of the laws where necessary, so that only a registered pharmacist (or registered pharmacists in partnership) shall be permitted to carry on the business of a pharmaceutical chemist."

Mr. Hall (N.S.W.), moving adoption of this remit, said it was a very pressing problem for New South Wales. Under the present system we have people who have no connection whatever with pharmacy opening up pharmacies all over the country.

Mr. Greig (Q'ld.) seconded the motion.

Mr. E. W. Braithwaite (Vic.) said that in Victoria this condition existed, and they are very jealous that it should remain so. They were willing to help any other State that has not that condition.

Mr. Conolly (N.S.W.): N.S.W. considered this to be a very important matter. There is a flaw in the Queensland Pharmacy Act which needed looking into. In New South Wales they had a doctor who will pay a registered pharmacist to "dummy".

Mr. Conolly said that the widow of a pharmacist should have certain rights of carrying on his business for a certain time after his death.

Mr. Cutler wished to agree with **Mr. Conolly** on the anomalous question of the doctor who was not acceptable to his colleagues being able to set up a pharmacy.

Mr. H. Martin (S.A.) said South Australia would support this remit heartily, but their position was somewhat different. An unregistered person or a company could not own a pharmacy unless in operation before 1942. Their chances of alteration of the legislation were nil.

Mr. F. W. Avenell (W.A.) said they were not worried in W.A., but would support N.S.W. Provision was made in Western Australia that a pharmacy may be continued by the widow of a pharmacist for 12 months, and for such further period as the Council may determine after the death of an owner.

Mr. Hall moved and **Mr. Greig** seconded, and the motion was carried.

PAPER BY MR. W. R. CUTLER.

It was unanimously agreed that the paper "A Case for Controls," which was to have been read by Mr. W. R. Cutler, be circulated to delegates, and that no discussion of the subject matter take place.

Mr. Cutler said that this paper was written purely to provoke thought, and if he were not deluged too much with correspondence, he would undertake to reply. He wished to apologise to Queensland, as in his valedictory address he made some statements on that State based on the old Act. He omitted to get a copy of the new Act, and would ask that the Secretary make a footnote to that effect on the publication. [See page 848.—Ed.]

REPORT ON "THE AUSTRALASIAN JOURNAL OF PHARMACY" BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AUSTRALASIAN PHARMACEUTICAL PUBLISHING CO. LTD., MR. H. A. BRAITHWAITE.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite (Vic.) said he did not propose to deal at great length with the Journal, because the annual meeting of the members of the company was held on August 15. [See separate report in this issue.—Ed.] Most matters that were of vital importance to the Journal were discussed at that meeting and explanations given of various parts of the Journal work that were of interest to all of the members of the company.

But, to refresh the minds of members of Conference, it was worth remembering that the Journal belonged to the States bodies, and in all, except Tasmania, three State bodies—the Pharmaceutical Society, the State Branch of the Guild, and P.D.L.—are co-owners from that State of a share in the Journal. They have allotted to them a share of the original finance of the Journal and they each have a nominee. Those nominees of their organisations are the members of the company. The three nominees in each State form the Local Committee of Management and the Chairman is a director of the company. In Victoria the Local Committee has added to it the Editor (Mr. F. C. Kent) and the Manager (Mr. T. G. Allen), and that group of five forms in Victoria the Committee of Management of the Journal proper. One of its members, at present Mr. Eric Scott, is treasurer of the company.

We have had a moderately successful year, a contributing factor being the prescription proprietaries card service. We have just over 700 subscribers to the cards and it looks really as if we could step up the number of subscribers to a good bit higher figure. Any rises in printing costs would be offset by the greater number of cards printed and we would be able to maintain that service at the present subscription of £3/3/- per annum. A suggestion about distribution of profits has been made by one of the States, but in the ordinary way it is not possible to distribute profits, because ours is a non-profit company. However, the Committee of Management will discuss the suggestion.

Mr. Braithwaite then reviewed the increases in advertising rates and in the charges to the Pharmaceutical Societies, in line with increases in printing and postal charges, over the past five years. He remarked on the amount of almost honorary work performed for the Journal, and the pride of the Board of Management that they were able to function on such a set-up.

He continued: "We have tried to maintain reader appeal in the Journal. We find we cannot profitably exclude any of the existing features. We are handicapped, in that we find it very difficult to get original articles on business topics, management and so on; items of practice or scientific articles. So we are persisting in our Science Section, with a team of people being fed with journals from overseas, abstracting items of current interest. We have a lot of satisfying comment from many sections of our people. Others are critical of it, but, I think, their criticism is that

they are not getting articles of local origin about practice. That we find it most difficult to achieve. We are getting some support from the applied pharmaceuticals section. A committee, led by Mr. Nigel C. Manning, looks after that section and a lot of the material we get is not suitable for publication, but we do personally reply to a number of chemists and discuss direct with them their problems and their suggestions, and we think that is a service from the Journal."

Mr. Braithwaite said he might here anticipate a matter on the Conference agenda and mention the Public Relations Department's association with the Journal. Mr. Attiwill had recently crystallised his thoughts and his Department's thoughts about their part in Journal activities. He said he appreciated the fact that the Journal Board had on more than one occasion asked him to sit in at Committee of Management meetings, whenever he felt it was desirable. More recently he had pressed Mr. Attiwill to attend meetings of the Board of Management whenever convenient and take an active part in their discussions. Mr. Attiwill was satisfied that that would provide him with all the possible linkage with Journal activities that he felt his Department needed. Mr. Attiwill had also offered to tackle two new features for the Journal in the near future.

Mr. Braithwaite concluded by saying: "Once again I do appeal to our people to put their thoughts in pharmaceutical publications first and not ally themselves with any opposition publications." (Applause.)

Mr. K. S. Porter (S.A.) said on occasions when he had produced the P.P. cards to medical men, some had been disappointed that there was no indication of toxicity or of any contra-indications, which often appeared on the manufacturer's literature.

Mr. Braithwaite replied that information for the cards was ordinarily gathered from the manufacturers' literature. There were some cards on which contra-indications were listed, but, as regards others, it had been felt that it would be dangerous for the Journal to supply its own opinions. However, Mr. Porter's comment would go forward to the compiler of the cards. The compiler was a Victorian pharmacist, who did a tremendous amount of work for the Journal; another Victorian pharmacist looks mainly after the forensic side of the cards. Those two young pharmacists did quite a lot of outstanding work.

Mr. A. E. Conolly (N.S.W.) inquired whether the State Pharmaceutical Societies could help in any way to increase the subscriptions to the cards. He did not say that in criticism of the Board of Management or of anybody associated with its distribution, but it occurred to him that it was very difficult to get subscribers to anything from one central focal point. The Pharmaceutical Societies might be able to help increase the membership of these cards.

Mr. Braithwaite said the Journal would appreciate the co-operation in this way of every Pharmaceutical Society.

After further discussion, the President (Mr. Cotterell) said he would like to thank Mr. Braithwaite most sincerely for his comprehensive report in the short time available to him.

Receipt of this report was moved by Mr. Iliffe, who congratulated the Committee on the work they have done over the years. The motion was seconded by Mr. R. V. S. Martin (Old.), who said he had heard favourable comment from other organisations that the Journal is one of the best pharmaceutical journals in existence. Carried.

REPRESENTATION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PUBLIC RELATIONS ON PUBLISHING COMMITTEES. RECOMMENDATION FROM VICTORIAN GUILD.

Mr. Iliffe asked for permission to withdraw this remit from the agenda, as the Victorian Guild delegates agreed that it had been amply covered in the report on the Journal presented by Mr. Braithwaite. Conference agreed.

HISTORIES OF PHARMACEUTICAL ORGANISATIONS.

Mr. J. L. Townley (N.S.W.) moved—

"That the Association arrange for publication of concise histories of—

- (i) The Pharmaceutical Societies.
- (ii) The Federated Service Guild of Australia.
- (iii) The other pharmaceutical organisations."

In doing so he said such action was long overdue. There were many men who had spent their lives in pharmacy, and had done a great deal to raise its status. Some effort should have been made to record this in such a way that it would be handed down to posterity. It would not be very hard to collect data later on. He had a lot already, and articles could be forwarded to, say, Mr. Attiwill, and eventually a comprehensive history could be compiled. The Society in New South Wales started in 1876, and the Master Pharmacists' Association started in 1915. This organisation merged with the Guild in 1928. Details of this sort should be retained in one volume for the benefit of posterity.

Mr. Conolly seconded the motion. He said they did not want a dry history which would be relegated to the dusty dignity of the upper shelves, but something that will be used at the moment.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite (Vic.): Public Relations offered to produce a handbook that covered the type of service provided by all the organisations, and I think that type of information would serve Mr. Conolly's purpose.

Mr. F. C. Kent: Publication by the Association of such a book might be a larger proposition than is envisaged, and I would suggest that New South Wales might consider a modification of the remit to the effect that the Association enlist the aid of all the affiliated organisations in compiling a short history as suggested, and that subsequently consideration be given to the form of publication.

Mr. E. F. Lipsham said that in 1953 he had to investigate material in some detail in preparation for lectures in the History of Pharmacy. He did not think speakers realised the mass of information that was available. With the greatest of difficulty he reduced the history of the Students' Association of the University of Sydney to a length that could be delivered in an hour's lecture. The suggestion that the matters could be handled in one volume is impracticable. To handle it on a State basis, it would take a volume three times the size of the A.P.F. in the smaller States and about ten times in the larger States. Perhaps it could be arranged that a student interested in this subject could take up one particular aspect and do it for a fee. There will then be accumulated a mass of authoritative detail.

Mr. L. Long (Vic.) said he did not think it practical to have a concise history of these bodies that would be of any historical value in a very small book. It would be very valuable, but it would take at least two or three years to gather the information. The booklet which Mr. Braithwaite mentioned was to have been a concise description of the work and functions of the various bodies.

Mr. Conolly (N.S.W.): After hearing Mr. Lipsham, it has frightened me. The immediate need is for something which sets out the organisation and details of the different organisations, so that a rapid impression can be gained of their functions. I am prepared to modify the present proposal, and then the remit will read:—

"That the Association enlist the aid of all the affiliated organisations for publishing a concise history of pharmaceutical organisations."

The amended motion was proposed by Mr. Townley, seconded by Mr. Conolly and carried.

Mr. Hamon (Vic.): I move now:—

"That a booklet could be prepared on the functions of the various organisations."

The above motion refers to the histories. We would like a booklet issued on the functions of the organisations.

Mr. Greig (Q'ld.): That was agreed to in Brisbane.

Mr. Kent: "I think it goes back further than Brisbane. Mr. Attiwill and I did report to the Queensland Conference after much consultation that there were difficulties in closely delineating duties and functions of the various organisations. My impression was that Brisbane accepted the view that there was a danger in making watertight compartments and putting it into published form. It was far better that these things should be determined in the different States.

Mr. L. Long (Vic.): I agree that delineation possibly would be a difficulty, but I would envisage the Pharmaceutical Society's main objects could be concisely and practically set out. I would move that the Association take active steps to follow up the motion passed at Brisbane.

Mr. Kent: At the last meeting of the Executive consideration was given to the proposal. There were several difficulties. A statement could not be prepared without a conference between Federal bodies. The suggestion is made that the position might be met by action in separate States. Mr. Attiwill has undertaken the preparation of a brochure outlining the objects of the Society, Guild, Pharmaceutical Defence, etc.

Mr. Ball (N.S.W.): I find myself in complete agreement with all speakers. Two points have been brought out:—

1. The obvious desire to have some concise statement of the history of pharmacy.
2. A publication on the objects of the various bodies of the Society.

Frankly I feel that the latter should be a separate subject to the one under discussion at the moment. We are discussing the preparation of a concise history.

Mr. J. W. Bowie (N.S.W.): I would like to second the motion that a suitable brochure be produced to give relevant information to people interested in joining the Society, Guild, etc.

This motion was carried.

PAYMENT OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS IN THE ARMY.

Mr. Cotterell: A remit has been handed in on equal pay for women pharmacists in the Army. This comes from Victoria, and I understand Mr. E. W. Braithwaite wishes to speak on it.

Mr. E. W. Braithwaite (Vic.): The motion that was passed in Queensland dealt purely with equal pay for men and women in the Services, but was not considered fully. Now the main object is not equal pay, but equal status. Mr. Fegent has copies of correspondence entered into with the Chemists' Sub-Branch of the R.S.L. and up to political level through R.S.L. Headquarters. They have not been able to achieve a great deal. I have drafted this motion, which I think will satisfy them and cover the whole range of what we would like in relation, not only to women pharmacists, but all pharmacists in the Services:—

"That the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia take appropriate action, enlisting where necessary the help of any organisation connected with pharmacy, to bring about the following recommendations in relation to pharmaceutical chemists in the Services:—

- (a) Women pharmacists to be members of the Medical Service, and responsible for duty and discipline only to a medical or a pharmaceutical officer.
- (b) The rank of the Senior Pharmaceutical Officer at Army and R.A.A.F. Headquarters to be the Lieut.-Colonel and Wing Commander respectively.
- (c) Specialist allowance to be granted to all pharmaceutical officers.

(a) We consider it entirely wrong for a professional pharmacist to be responsible for discipline to other than a medical or pharmaceutical officer. A woman M.O. is responsible for duty and discipline only to a Medical Officer. The same should

apply to women pharmacists. That will raise their status, and it may bring them in under the same rank and pay, but it is their status in the service that is most important.

- (b) At present the rank of a senior pharmacist at Army Headquarters is a Major. During the war, after a lot of fighting, it was raised to Lieut.-Colonel. When they formed the peace establishment, it was reduced to Major, and we consider we should fight to have that rank raised.

EIGHTH SESSION—WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, AT 2.15 p.m.

The President welcomed the lady members and congratulated them on the formation of their Federal Association.

Members of the Federal Council of the Guild being in attendance, the following remit, discussion of which had been deferred, was proceeded with:—

(i) "That the Association take steps—

- (a) to implement the resolution carried at the Brisbane Conference that the pharmacy laws throughout Australia be amended, where necessary, to provide for one man, one shop."

Mr. A. E. Conolly (N.S.W.) said that in N.S.W. they had always advocated one man, one shop, for they were opposed to chain pharmacy in the interests of the public. Pharmacy chains, which had developed abroad, became huge financial octopi, whose tentacles stretched out to obtain a strangle-grip on the community. Some years ago there was an attempt to enter New South Wales from Queensland by one of these octopi, but steps were taken to ensure that the conditions abroad were not reproduced in New South Wales. Other States, more happily situated, were not subjected to this threat. Legislation had been enacted to give protection against such threats. At the same time, it was pointed out that it would be highly anomalous for the individual pharmacist to insist that he should be given the right to manage or to own multiple pharmacies when he objected to this principle. Therefore, in the New South Wales Pharmacy Act, the principle was established of "one man, one shop." They considered the position should be reinforced throughout the whole of Australia. This remit is to implement the resolution, carried at the Brisbane Conference, that the pharmacy laws throughout Australia be amended where necessary to provide for one man, one shop.

Mr. W. R. Cutler (N.S.W.) seconded the motion. He said he was aware that the position was governed by State laws and certain clauses in those might prevent the implementation of the motion; but it is the principle they wanted accepted—a principle to fight for. In countries where this restriction did not exist, pharmacy was kicked from pillar to post by these financial cartels. He could not see any difference in a man owning two or three or four pharmacies, even if he is the qualified owner, and an organisation owing two, three or four pharmacies.

Mr. Leggo (N.S.W.) also supported the motion and said there was no trouble in New South Wales as soon as it was shown and proved to members of Parliament that an example had been set, and the principle of one man, one shop established.

Mr. Iliffe (Vic.) said he was not definitely opposed to the motion, but saw certain difficulties in implementing it at this stage. If it were brought into force, pharmacists who had more than one pharmacy would be permitted to keep them. He asked: "Why should I be debarred from opening up a further branch?" He was of opinion that the motion could only be effective if they had licensing of pharmacy.

Mr. Long (Vic.) said that at the Brisbane meeting there was a very fine-cut decision on this matter. In Victoria they were sympathetic to the view of New South Wales, but they had quite a lot of protection.

The motion was then formally submitted by Mr. E. W. Braithwaite.

Miss I. MacGillivray (Vic.): I have very much pleasure in supporting the motion and in thanking Mr. Braithwaite for that motion. The position has been clarified. Pay is incidental; the status was the main thing, and Mr. Braithwaite has been very kind in clarifying the matter for us.

The motion was put to the meeting and carried.

The Session was adjourned at 12 noon.

Pharmacies could only be operated by qualified persons, and they were responsible for the conduct of that pharmacy.

Mr. Greig (Qld.): Queensland is sympathetic to the remit.

Mr. Fitch (W.A.): We are quite in accord with the principle of one man, one shop. We, however, oppose the motion, on the score that in Western Australia there is a limitation by law that one man may own two shops or be financially interested in two shops, and our Council is of opinion that that is a sound coverage. We are, therefore, instructed to oppose the motion.

Mr. E. W. Braithwaite (Vic.): In Victoria we have the principle that pharmacy is for pharmacists, and that is the best way to keep out any chains. We were just as concerned in Victoria when there was a possibility of an overseas chain coming to New South Wales. If they were established in New South Wales, they would probably have moved to Victoria. If we can bring about the ideal of only registered pharmacists having an interest in a pharmacy, that will solve part of the difficulty. We are sympathetic to the limitation of pharmacy, but to bind it down to one pharmacy per person is very much against enterprise; against the person who wishes to make some provision for his children entering business.

Mr. Porter (S.A.): In principle, we sympathise with the motion, but we are overlooking the greatest thing you have to overcome, which is your Government. They are not particularly interested in the welfare of the pharmacist, but are concerned with the welfare of the public. We are in sympathy, but it is going to be difficult.

Motion put to meeting and carried.

NAMES OF POISONS.

Publicity in Press.

Mr. W. R. Cutler (N.S.W.), on obtaining permission of the Chair, moved:—

"That this twentieth Conference of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia, assembled at Sydney, unanimously urge that representations be made to the relevant newspaper associations in all States that the names of drugs used in cases of suicide and murder, or attempts thereat, be not published."

He asked delegates to note the effect of auto-suggestion on the public. There was no idea of suppression of facts that should be made known to the public. The motion was designed to assist our community in fighting an instrument in the hands of people with criminal intent who wished to destroy.

Mr. E. Hall (N.S.W.) seconded.

Mr. I. J. Thompson (Vic.), on behalf of the Public Relations Secretariat, supported the motion. Public Relations for four years, he said had endeavoured to persuade the press of this country from publishing the names of poisons used.

Mr. Avenell (W.A.): "We have had happy associations with the press in Western Australia, and they have refrained from printing the names of poisons used in cases of this nature. I feel the motion does not go quite far enough, and suggest that broadcasting should be included."

Mr. Cutler agreed, and also Mr. Hall, who seconded the motion, and the motion was submitted in amended form—

"That this twentieth Conference of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia, assembled at Sydney, unanimously urge that representations be made to the relevant newspaper associations and broadcasting services in all States that the names of drugs used in cases of suicide and murder, or attempts thereat, be not published." and carried unanimously.

Resignation of Secretary, Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies.

Mr. Cutler announced at the meeting of the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies they had received a resignation—which caused considerable regret—from Mr. F. C. Kent as Federal Secretary of the Council. As the Victorian Society opposed the formation of a Federal Society, he felt he could no longer effectively act as secretary of the Federal Council, whose first object was the formation of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia. His resignation is received with great regret. By unanimous vote the members of the Council had elected Mr. A. E. Conolly, of New South Wales, to take the position.

The report was formally received.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS: (a) DEPUTY PRESIDENT.

Mr. Cutler: I was honoured some few years ago by being elected Deputy President of the Association, and that, of course, meant President-elect. I was nominated by a man who should have preceded me, and I would now like to return the nomination, if he will accept. I put forward the name of Mr. H. A. Braithwaite, the Hon. Treasurer of the Association, as Deputy-President.

Mr. Iliffe (Vic.): Victoria takes pleasure in supporting that nomination. We feel there is no man more fitting or more worthy to hold the position we offer him.

Mr. Cotterell: As there are no other nominations, I have pleasure in declaring Mr. H. A. Braithwaite elected as Deputy-President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia.

(b) Hon. Treasurer.

Mr. Cossar nominated Mr. K. Porter of South Australia. Mr. Cutler seconded the nomination and Mr. K. Porter was elected to the position of Hon. Treasurer of the Association.

(c) Association Council.

Mr. Cotterell: Two other members from the States not represented by these three offices must be nominated as members of the Association Council.

Mr. E. Hall (N.S.W.) was nominated by Mr. Iliffe and seconded by Mr. E. W. Braithwaite.

Mr. H. Fitch (W.A.) was nominated by Mr. E. W. Braithwaite for the other vacancy, and this was seconded by Mr. Iliffe.

Mr. Cotterell then said he had much pleasure in declaring Messrs. Fitch and Hall to be representatives on the Association Council.

(d) Hon. General Secretary.

Mr. Hall nominated Mr. F. C. Kent as Hon. General Secretary. This was seconded by Mr. Reid. Mr. Cotterell then declared Mr. F. C. Kent re-elected Hon. General Secretary of the Association.

(e) Auditor.

Re-appointment of Mr. R. H. Morrison was moved by Mr. Long (Victoria) and seconded by Mr. D. Crisp (Tasmania) and carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES, PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICE FUND.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite, a Trustee of the Fund, placed on the table an audited report of the assets of the Fund, and said that the Trustees were two persons

nominated on behalf of the Federal Guild, and two persons nominated on behalf of this Association. Since its inception, Mr. A. C. Fraser (N.S.W.) and Mr. G. H. Dallimore (W.A.) have been the nominees on behalf of Federal Guild, and Mr. W. C. Cotterell (S.A.) and he had been nominated on behalf of the Association. A considerable sum of money was still held and it was necessary for the appointment or re-appointment of Trustees of the Association.

Mr. E. Hall nominated Mr. Braithwaite and Mr. Cotterell for re-appointment as nominees of the Association. Seconded by Mr. G. D. T. Allan (W.A.). Mr. Braithwaite and Mr. Cotterell were duly declared elected.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.

Mr. Iliffe said Victoria would have great pleasure in inviting the Conference to come to Melbourne in January, 1955.

Mr. Lee seconded the invitation.

Mr. Thompson said he thought sixteen months was too short an interval between meetings, as they were very costly.

Mr. Cutler said the intention was to try and coincide the meeting with A.N.Z.A.A.S., Section "O."

Mr. T. D. H. Allan (W.A.) said that there was not sufficient time and it was a big expense to come from distant States. As Section "O" had its meetings every twelve months, it might be possible to catch them up the next time.

Mr. Iliffe said he was prepared to amend the motion to 1956, and Mr. Lee said he would second that motion.

Mr. Nye said that A.N.Z.A.A.S. decided that their next meeting should be in Melbourne in January, 1955, but a meeting at Canberra in January, 1954, had been interposed against the wishes of the General Council in Sydney. He urged that, if possible, the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia should coincide its meeting with A.N.Z.A.A.S., as he believed that the Association would lose tremendously if it drifted away from A.N.Z.A.A.S. The link with A.N.Z.A.A.S. was a tremendous asset.

Mr. Hall said he supported Mr. Nye. He had some doubts, however, as to whether any papers would be ready for Section "O."

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite said that for the Canberra Conference Professor Thorp and Mr. Wright had started to prepare papers, Mr. R. G. Smith, who was to be President of Section "O," was getting papers from his team and several other people in Melbourne were at work. Mr. Manning also had something in hand, and Mr. Sissons has agreed to give Section "O" some of the information he gathered overseas. Mr. Smith is arranging discussions.

Mr. Greig (Qld.) said he agreed that the passage of sixteen months was not only too short from the point of view of expense, but also from the point of view of implementing remits from this Conference.

Mr. E. W. Braithwaite said that, as the A.N.Z.A.A.S. meeting would be held every twelve months, except for an odd occasion, it would not be possible to fit in with them always.

After further discussion, Mr. Long suggested that the phrase "or at such suitable time as recommended by the executive" be added to the motion.

The amended motion was then put by Mr. Iliffe, and seconded by Mr. Lee, as follows:—

"That the next meeting of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia be held in Melbourne in January, 1956, or such suitable date in 1956, as recommended by the executive."

This was carried.

Mr. Lee suggested that some tangible recognition of the work of the Editorial Committee of the A.P.F. might be made. He moved that the executive be requested to look into the matter of due recognition of the work of the Editor of A.P.F.

Mr. Porter seconded the motion, which was carried.

PRESENTATION TO PRESIDENT.

Mr. Cutler then took the chair, and a presentation was made to Mr. Cotterell.

Mr. Cutler said it had been a privilege to be under Mr. Cotterell's guidance, and he felt that the choice of Mr. Cotterell as President had been an extremely happy one. He had given the meeting latitude in debate and had conducted the affairs of the meeting in a very dignified manner, which had endeared him to everyone. The name of Mrs. Cotterell was coupled with him. Of her, Mr. Cutler said: "She is a very gracious lady and everyone is very fond of her." A gift was handed to Mr. Cotterell, with the hope that he and Mrs. Cotterell would treasure it as a memento of a happy meeting.

Mr. Cotterell replied on behalf of Mrs. Cotterell and himself, thanking the Association for its gift. He felt that to be the President of the Association was a high honour and one which he deeply appreciated. (Applause.)

GIFT TO SOCIAL PRESIDENT.

Mr. Cotterell resumed the chair and called on Mr. E. Hall to come forward. He then presented a mantel clock to Mr. Hall as a token for his arduous work as Social President. He spoke of the great amount of work done by Mr. and Mrs. Hall and the organising committee for the pleasure and enjoyment of the visitors. It had been an unqualified success, and all visitors thanked him most sincerely.

Mr. Hall said, in reply, that he and his wife deeply appreciated the action of the Association in making the presentation. He said he had found the work a lot of fun and every minute a thrill, and if there were another Conference in a fortnight's time, he would be willing to do it again. He had had the utmost co-operation from everyone, including the visitors. His organising committee had worked as a team, and in the eleven months' preparation there was not one cross word. He spoke of the debt he owed his wife for her help in keeping his pharmacy going, thus leaving him free for his work as Social Secretary. (Applause.)

GENERAL.

Mr. Cotterell said that a vote of thanks would be given to the management of the Stawell Hall, and that it was one of the most comfortable theatres in which the Association had had the pleasure of holding its meetings.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite desired to place on record the appreciation of all for the immense amount of work done by the Hon. General Secretary, Mr. F. C. Kent, and wished to offer him sincere thanks.

Mr. Hall wished to place on record thanks on his own behalf and of Conference generally, to the staff of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales and of the State Branch Committee of the Guild.

Miss Chalmers (Qld.) wished to offer thanks on behalf of the Women Pharmacists' Association.

Mr. Thompson said he had an air letter from Mr. Sissons, Dean of the Victorian College of Pharmacy, in which he sent greetings to the President and members of the Conference.

Mr. Fitch (W.A.) then offered thanks and congratulations on behalf of Western Australia, and Mr. Holloway (S.A.) added his thanks on behalf of South Australia. He said how much everyone had enjoyed his stay. Mr. Chater (Qld.), Mr. Thompson (Vic.) and Mr. Crisp (Tas.) also offered thanks on behalf of their respective States and made eulogistic reference to the arrangements for both the Conference and the social entertainment.

Mr. Keni said that an air letter had been received from Mr. Les. Smith, on board "Empress of France," August 9, during the progress of a very unsettled journey. "My wife and I desire to extend our hopes to all members of Conference that their deliberations and

resolutions reached will be beneficial to pharmacy generally, and each delegate will leave Conference with the feeling that he or she has benefited by attending."

Mr. Cotterell said he would like to thank most sincerely the members of Conference for their consideration and assistance to him as Chairman, particularly in view of the tragic circumstances yesterday. He thanked members for their co-operation in enabling business to be disposed of, and he sincerely trusted that the links of friendship that have been formed at this Conference may continue to grow. He declared the Conference closed until the Conference to be held in Melbourne in 1956, of which further notice would be given to all organisations by the executive. He thanked everyone for their attention, and said he was sure that the Conference had been very delightful for one and all.

This terminated the proceedings.

AN ODE ON CONFERENCES

By J. D. G. Medley

*It occurs to me that it would be wise
To preface this effusion of the spirit
By making it quite clear (though it is not in fact quite true)*

*That no reference to any actual event is intended
And that any person who may think that he (or she)
is mentioned, however indirectly,*

*Is only included
Because I am reasonably (though not absolutely) confident*

*That he or (less probably) she
Is too nice-minded to start anything.*

★ ★ ★

*You often hear people arguing
About what is the chief Australian occupation.
Some say Strikes or S.P. betting;
Some say Speech-making.
I plump for Conferences, which are not quite the same
as speech-making,
As I shall endeavour to demonstrate,
For I wish to ruminate upon them for a while.*

★ ★ ★

Reticent

*I have attended many in my time,
But wild horses would not drag from me
In which hotel in what place they are usually held,
What kind of people go to them
Or what sort of subjects they discuss;
Though, now I come to think of it,
The horses wouldn't have to be so very wild
For they always happen in the same hotel, are attended
by almost the same people
And discuss the same kind of subject with exactly the
same result,
But we'll leave it at that for the moment.*

★ ★ ★

*They always start in the same way.
The moment you enter the hotel
You are fallen upon by a posse of enthusiastic officials
Who thrust into your hand an enormous envelope containing
a great deal of irrelevant dope
And a label for your bottomhole
With someone else's name on it.
Shrouded in this welcome anonymity
You plunge hopefully into the melee of delegates in
the lounge.
But it's no good.
You are invited to a cocktail party at an Embassy,
A documentary film rather conspicuously not featuring
Betty Grable at a Legation,
And a lecture by a Professor who has just broken
through the Iron Curtain and brought a piece of it
with him at a High Commissioner's.*

You are asked to take part in a golf tournament,
 A round-the-city Treasure Hunt (Treasury and Taxation Departments excluded),
 A Quiz session conducted by the A.B.C. in their (fortunately) inimitable manner,
 And to tour the cellars of a neighbouring vineyard.
 Just as you are about to accept the latter,
 Somebody discovers that you have the wrong label for the wrong Conference.
 They take it away,
 Give you another one
 And start all over again on a very different programme.

★ ★ ★

Vital Period

But this is a most vital period in any Conference.
 It is universally agreed by the cognocenti
 That nobody with whom you would care to be seen
 Goes to a Conference to confer.
 You go to make Informal Contacts.
 They are the fertiliser which keeps Conferences going so continuously,
 And they are very largely liquid in character.
 And it is now you must choose
 Whether your Informal Contacts will be prosecuted
 Over coffee and culture with the Intelligentsia in the Ladies' Lounge,
 Over cocktails and camaraderie with what pass for Bright Young Things at Conferences in the Bar,
 Or beer and billiards with the Trades Hall boys in the backblocks.
 This is most important.
 Personally, I prefer Beer,
 But that is neither here nor there.

★ ★ ★

But the Conference has to start sometime,
 And it is duly opened in the utmost splendour
 By an Elder Statesman,
 Surrounded by a constellation of less Elder Statesmen.
 Enough said (in every sense of the phrase).
 Towards the end of the oratorical beanfeast
 There is noticeable restiveness amongst those delegates whose contacts have been conspicuously informal.
 They are sternly called to order by the Secretary.
 Who announces—inveterate optimist!—that real work will now start
 And that delegates will split into discussion groups
 In order to frame resolutions
 For submission to a Final Full Session.
 And this is what happens—
 Or so the Secretary kids himself into believing.

★ ★ ★

Discussion groups
 Meet in inconvenient and inaccessible parts of the hotel
 Unvisited since Burke and Wills passed that way
 And remote from all basic human conveniences.
 They have a most impressive staff of officials.
 There is a Chairman, a Deputy Chairman, an Associate Chairman, a Recorder,
 A Secretary, a Secretary's Dogsbody and a Secretary's Dogsbody's Puppy.
 In a few cases there are some ordinary members as well.
 These consist of
 Delegates with a mission (to be avoided at all costs),
 Delegates who have found the pace of Informal Contacts too hot,
 And delegates who have come to the wrong room and are too shy to admit it.
 They get to work on framing resolutions,
 And good luck to them!

Final Session

The Conference
 Drags its slow length along (Quotation)
 Against a background of Babylonian gaiety,
 But it has to end sometime and reach the haven of the Final Session.

The remarkable thing about this event
 Is the astonishing number of delegates present whose contacts have been so continuously informal
 That nobody has seen them before.
 These monopolise the debating
 Partly to show how conscientious they really are
 And partly because their hangovers make them vociferous.

They quarrel violently about any resolution which contains anything of the least importance,
 With the final result
 That the Resolutions eventually passed are so innocuous
 That a three-month-old baby could swallow them with total impunity.

The Chairman is in despair;
 The Secretary resolves to commit suicide.
 But everybody else is happy except the delegates with missions

Who are never happy anyway.

★ ★ ★

But the whole business is an illuminating illustration
 Of the principle of the greatest happiness of the greatest number,
 For most people have had a smashing time
 At Government expense,
 Except for the drinks,
 And one of these days a Discussion Group
 Will propose a resolution to include them;
 And the delegates referred to above won't oppose that.
 I bet.

—Published in "The Age," on February 16, 1952, and reprinted by permission of the Editor of "The Age."

CONFERENCE REPORTS HELD OVER.

A very full programme of social events, excursions and outings was arranged by the New South Wales Conference Committee for the enjoyment of the visitors.

The New South Wales Ladies' Committee also arranged many functions for the lady visitors, which were greatly enjoyed.

It has not been possible to include in this issue reports of all of these activities, but reference will be made to them in the October Journal.

Several papers contributed to Conference and reports of the meeting of the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies and the Conference of Pharmacy Boards will also be published in October.

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DEXSAL

It is "Chemists Only"

By Contract with YOUR Guild

COMPOSITION: A pleasant, effervescent granular preparation containing 34% of pure medicinal glucose.

INDICATIONS: Acidosis, morning sickness, bilious headache, nausea, alcoholic after-effects. Specially suitable for biliousness in children.

DOSAGE: One or two teaspoonsful in a tumbler of cold water and drink during effervescence. To be taken as often as required.

PRESENTATION: In bottles—4 oz. nett.

RETAIL PRICE: 4/6 per bottle.

Dexsal is "chemists only" by Contract with the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild of Australia. Therefore it is in your best interests that Dexsal be given your full recommendation and prominently displayed on your counter and in the window. Display cards readily available.

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in our time*



To have seen Gielgud's Lear will be something to tell one's grandchildren. For here the actor's art of interpretation is matched by such a voice and such a feeling for the tragic predicament of Man as are met with only once in a century. • Achievement in our time comes only as it always came—by mastery of technique based on knowledge and devotion. It is our conviction that this can also mark the attitude of a chemical house on which the health of men and the progress of industry depend.



FINE CHEMICALS BY

HOWARDS OF ILFORD

Established in 1797

Progress in the Australian National Health Scheme

How Can the National Cost of Sickness Be Lessened, and How Can the Cost of Sickness Be Paid?

ADDRESS BY SIR EARLE PAGE, MINISTER FOR HEALTH TO DELEGATES AT THE TWENTIETH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE, SYDNEY, ON AUGUST 13, 1953.

Two years ago I had the privilege of addressing your previous Conference and outlined the various stages of the Australian Health Scheme that were being brought into being.

Today all those stages are actually working smoothly. The smooth working of the scheme is already attracting attention all over the world to such a degree that I leave tonight to open a special discussion on National Health Insurance at The Hague, at the Annual Conference of the World Medical Associations.

Our approach is the reason for the smooth working of the scheme. All the agents are recognised as partners in a community partnership, with equal obligations and responsibilities.

The progress made is evident in many ways.

First, the actual figures of expenditure on health from Federal sources have quadrupled from seven millions to twenty-eight millions.

Total Federal Expenditure.

	1948-49.	1952-53.
	£	£
Free Milk for School Children ..	Nil	1,600,000
Tuberculosis Eradication ..	134,000	4,590,000
Free Medicines ..	148,000	6,996,000
Free Medical Service to Pensioners	Nil	2,000,000
Commonwealth and Insurance		
Contribution to Hospitals ..	6,886,000	12,920,000
Contribution to Mental Institutions	Nil	520,000
	£7,168,000	£28,626,000

Thus the amount contributed by the Commonwealth and its agencies is four times as much as in 1948-49. This monetary contribution is much greater really than these figures show. Everything the present Commonwealth Government has done has been an addition, and the States and professions have been given back their autonomy and control of their hospitals. Under Labour rule the Commonwealth grant was not an addition to what the States were deriving from their own policies, but in substitution for that, and States lost control of hospital policy.

The agreement on mental institutions is a case in point. The Chifley Labor Government made an arrangement with the States to give 10d. per day per bed towards the upkeep of mental homes, if the States gave up their control of their own hospital policy and ceased to collect this amount. On taking office, we gave notice to the States that we were ready to cancel this agreement and to deal with the problem on a realistic basis, under which their control was restored.

In the case of hospital benefits, the Chifley Labor Government also gave its grant in substitution of what the States were already collecting, but, at the same time, took away the States' control of their hospital policy. We have restored the control of hospitals to the States, and even markedly increased their revenues.

Saving of Hospital Beds.

Similarly, the previous Government had hedged round the prescribing of drugs with all sorts of restrictions. Under the present scheme, the prescribing of

ordinary compounds remains the same as it has always been, but free life-saving drugs are now made available to the population as a whole, and to pensioners, though pensioners have, in addition, the free right to any medicines prescribed out of the British Pharmacopoeia.

The effect on the hospital and working force in the community of this policy is already seen. The exhibition of free life-saving drugs, through shortening the duration of sickness, is removing the necessity of hospital treatment of 10 per cent. of the people who previously went to hospital. Free medical treatment to pensioners in their homes has led to a reduction of 6 per cent. in the number of pensioners going to hospital and the treatment at home is much cheaper to the nation. The length of stay in hospital has been lessened by a total of 1,200,000 days in 1952-1953, as compared with 1948. As each patient costs £3/10/- per day per bed in hospital, this is a saving of £4,200,000. Two million working days have been saved, which are equal to another £4,000,000.

Tuberculosis Progress.

A marked advance in the eradication of tuberculosis has been the inauguration of compulsory chest X-ray throughout Australia. Generous additional advances have been given to acute, infectious cases. This brought into treatment several thousand concealed cases which would not come for treatment by reason of their worry about the domestic economy of their homes. The effect of earlier treatment is seen on the death rate, which has dropped from 1964, or 25 per 100,000, in 1949 to 1289, or 14 per 100,000, in 1952.

Our Hospital Insurance Scheme has already begun to bring the whole finance of Australian hospitals' system out of the red. Hospital income in Australia is £6,000,000 greater than in 1951-52, and will be still greater in 1953-54.

I have already mentioned the importance of the turnover effect on beds that has resulted from life-saving drugs and pensioner home treatment.

Prevention of Abuse.

With free life-saving drugs—as with anything free—we must prevent attempted abuse. Success in this direction is coming through the co-operation of doctors and chemists. Official organisations and individual committees of both professions, nominated by their Federal executives, have been given authority to examine cases of fraud and unprofessional practice, and make recommendations as to the disciplinary action which should be taken.

By these means mounting costs have been definitely halted. It is recognised that with constantly changing medical habits and knowledge, chemists must have a substantial wastage, and a wastage table has been drawn up which has been accepted. The velocity, however, of the use of certain tablets has become so vast that it is obvious that there is very little wastage in these particular lines. Sulphadiazine, with almost a 20 per cent. velocity, necessitated the modification of the wastage table. For some inscrutable reason, perhaps pure coincidence, when this was done, sulphadiazine prescriptions became less popular and sulphonamides took pride of place. I am looking for the answer to this wastage problem on these greatly used drugs. We have no desire to follow the example of Britain, which several times has altered the percentage of mark-up, in

an effort to prevent rising costs, and is now making a charge for each prescription.

Partnership in Operation.

We wish to make all our policies and discussions thereon as partners. This involves everyone coming to the party and laying the factual position as it actually exists, before all concerned. It may be insurance and self help are the answers to the control of drugs. Only time will show. Efficiency of the protective organisations provided by the pharmaceutical and medical professions may give sufficient control to obviate this.

The manner in which organisations police the scheme is a unique feature of the Australian scheme. Committees undertake the work of examining delinquencies and have very wide powers. They bring their findings to the Minister, who takes appropriate action.

Many anomalies have arisen, some due to the absence of any previous foresight. Demands for 100 per cent. perfection are made from people who have never received any help at all before. We are, however, working as fast as we can to overcome these anomalies. The age bar has gone, the bar on chronic disease has half gone, pre-existing illness is on the way; but time must be given to allow the scheme a chance to get on its feet and grow to a balanced maturity. An infant scheme cannot be expected to carry on like full manhood as soon as it is born.

The fact to be remembered about our health scheme is that it is working—it is improving health—it is cutting down time spent in hospital and away from work—and building up a spirit of independence throughout the nation.

Australasian Pharmaceutical Publishing Company Limited

Thirty-Fourth Annual Meeting

The thirty-fourth annual meeting of members of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Publishing Company Limited was held at "Science House," 157 Gloucester street, Sydney, on Saturday, August 15, 1953, at 9.30 a.m.

Present.—The following representatives were present:

New South Wales: Messrs. H. D. B. Cox, J. L. Townley (director designate) and C. Carlisle.

Victoria: Messrs. H. A. Braithwaite (director), N. C. Cossar, F. C. Kent (editor) and T. G. Allen (manager and secretary).

Queensland: Messrs. R. S. F. Greig (director designate) and R. V. S. Martin.

South Australia: Messrs. Walter C. Cotterell (director), A. C. Holloway and K. S. Porter.

Western Australia: Messrs. T. D. H. Allan (director), G. H. Dallimore, H. D. Fitch and F. W. Avenell.

Tasmania: Messrs. D. Crisp and L. W. Palfreyman.

Proxies.—The secretary tabled proxies, all in favour of the Chairman (Mr. H. A. Braithwaite), signed by Mr. J. H. Gould, of Hobart, Mr. F. T. Holmes, of Launceston, and Mr. K. H. Jenkins, of Hobart.

Chairman.—The Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. A. Braithwaite, who presided, said he wished to say he was very pleased to sit with the biggest gathering they had had for an annual meeting of the Journal company for a long time.

Minutes.—The minutes of the thirty-third annual meeting, held at Melbourne on September 22, 1952, were confirmed, on the motion of Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Cotterell.

Correspondence.—Several items of correspondence were placed before the meeting and received.

Annual Report, Accounts and Balance Sheet.—The Chairman, who moved the adoption of the annual report, accounts and balance sheet, reviewed the activities of the past year, making special mention of the service provided by the prescription proprietaries card service; a new contract on more favourable terms for the printing of the Journal; the charge for the Journal to the Pharmaceutical Societies, and discontinuance of special Conference issues. The result of the year was a moderate profit.

In the course of discussion on the report prior to its adoption, several suggestions were made for the extension of the P.P. Card Service, which Mr. A. C. Holloway, of South Australia, described as "a wonderful service."

Election of Seven Directors.—The secretary reported that the retiring directors were Messrs. H. A. Braithwaite (Vic.), L. W. Smith (N.S.W.), V. Barnett (Qld.), Walter C. Cotterell (S.A.), T. D. H. Allan (W.A.), K. H. Jenkins (Tas.) and H. F. Clarke (N.Z.). Notification of retirement had been received from Mr. L. W. Smith (N.S.W.) and Mr. V. Barnett (Qld.), and in their places Mr. J. L. Townley and Mr. R. S. F. Greig had been nominated.

No other nominations having been received, Messrs. Allan, Braithwaite, Clarke, Cotterell, Greig, Jenkins and Townley were declared elected as directors of the company for the year 1953-54.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite was re-elected as Chairman of Directors.

Auditor.—The retiring auditor, Mr. R. H. Morrison, F.C.A. (Aust.), was re-elected as the auditor of the company for the current year, at the same remuneration as for the year 1952-53.

Suggestions From the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.—Some suggestions, made late in 1952 by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, were the subject of a memorandum from the Board of Management, which members of the company had had an opportunity to peruse prior to the meeting.

The intimation from the Chairman that the present position of the company and its prospects would enable the Board of Management to carry on for two years at least without asking the Pharmaceutical Societies to increase their payments to the Journal for copies supplied was received with satisfaction.

The meeting considered that members of local boards in the States would be kept sufficiently in touch with current Journal affairs if the present practice of sending a copy of minutes of meetings of the Board of Management to the Chairman of each local board was continued.

Mr. Townley said the memorandum from the Board of Management and the verbal explanations of the Chairman had answered satisfactorily the various points

raised by the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales. It was unfortunate that the meeting had to be held on a Saturday morning, because this possibly accounted for the absence of some members of the Pharmaceutical Society Council who had brought forward the suggestions that had been placed before the Board of Management. The one dealing with extension of the classified advertisements section was designed to bring in revenue by charging for announcements dealing with births and marriages, as was the practice of the daily newspapers. However, the meeting did not favour any change in this regard.

Dealing with another point raised, the Chairman said admittedly the Journal was not publishing nearly as many original articles as they would like to. It was deplorable, because there were plenty of good men in pharmacy who could do this work. Mr. Cox said the material abstracted by Mr. Sissons was very good. Mr. Avenell said readers in W.A. would not have such information unless they got it through the Journal Science Section.

Mr. Cox said some investigation work was being done by students at the University. The Journal would be an admirable medium for the publication of the results of that work. Mr. Townley said they could do that through Mr. Wright. A lot of it might come through the Science Group of the Pharmaceutical Society, headed by Mr. H. W. Read.

A suggestion from the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales that science matter be published quarterly, instead of monthly, was not favoured by the meeting.

Applied Pharmaceutics.—The Chairman asked those present to do all they possibly could in order to get material for the Applied Pharmaceutics Section. Mr. Townley said it was very hard to stir up the average pharmacist to do these things.

Reports of Meetings of Official Bodies.—The editor said he would like to refer to the request that went to the State secretaries some time ago, that they should provide the essentials only in their reports. Some still came forward that were purely formal. There was no desire to curtail or eliminate anything of interest, but purely formal things that conveyed no meaning to readers should be omitted.

Public Relations Secretariat.—The Chairman announced that an invitation had been extended to Mr. K. G. Attiwill, the Director of Public Relations, to attend meetings of the Board of Management, and, as it was likely, following his recent illness, that Mr. Attiwill would be in Melbourne for longer periods now, they were looking forward to seeing him at Journal meetings whenever it was convenient for him to attend. Mr. Attiwill had offered to gather material for a new series of articles. These should prove most interesting, although some months might elapse before the first contribution appeared.

Vote of Thanks to Board of Management.—Keen appreciation of the services rendered to the Journal by Mr. Braithwaite was voiced by Mr. Holloway and Mr. Dallimore in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman and other members of the Board of Management.

The meeting closed at 11.30 a.m.

Pharmaceutical Defence Limited

Conference of P.D.L. Representatives—Sydney, August 13, 1953

A meeting of P.D.L. representatives and secretaries who were in Sydney for the twentieth meeting of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia was held at the Wentworth Hotel, Lang street, Sydney, on Thursday, August 13, 1953.

In declaring the meeting open at 2.25 p.m., the Chairman of Directors (Mr. E. W. Braithwaite), who presided, welcomed those in attendance.

The representatives were as follow:—

Directors (Head Office).—Messrs. E. W. Braithwaite, N. C. Cossar and E. A. O. Moore, together with the secretary, Mr. T. G. Allen.

N.S.W. Local Board.—Messrs. H. D. B. Cox, E. G. Hall, O. C. V. Leggo, N. V. Orr and J. L. Stormon, together with the branch secretary, Mr. C. Carlisle.

Queensland Local Board.—Mr. W. A. Lenehan.

South Australian Local Board.—Mr. A. C. Holloway, deputising for Mr. Walter C. Cotterell, President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia, who had been appointed by the South Australian Local Board to act as their representative, but was unable to be present because of another meeting.

Western Australian Local Board.—Mr. T. D. H. Allan and the branch secretary, Mr. F. W. Avenell.

Agenda.

The agenda for consideration by the Conference was as follows:—

1. Constitution of P.D.L.—Report on behalf of the directors, followed by discussion.
2. Articles of Association.—Suggestions for alterations invited.
3. Chemists' Indemnity Insurance.
4. General Insurances.—Dissemination of information to students.
5. Branch Reports and Returns.
6. Advertising of P.D.L. ("A.J.P." and "Gilseal News").
7. General.

(1) Constitution of P.D.L.

A report on behalf of the directors was read by the Chairman. This report gave a brief historical survey of the origin of the company, its incorporation and development in the State of Victoria, and subsequent extension to other States. Dealing with the directorate of the company, the reasons for the directors' opposition to a move for a different constitution of the directorate were set out, and the purport of the legal opinions obtained was summarised. Finally, there was an offer on behalf of the directors to refer to the members of the company as a whole the question as to whether an alteration of the constitution along the lines suggested by the New South Wales Local Board was desired.

Mr. Cox said he took no exception to the general statement as an historical document, except that he thought it needed filling out in some respects. Some information concerning the functioning of the P.D.L. in New South Wales during the earlier years of the company's existence was then placed before the meeting by Mr. Cox. He claimed, however, that the taking of a plebiscite on such a question was not the best way to proceed and he expressed opposition to that proposal.

A lengthy discussion then ensued, at the conclusion of which the following resolution, moved by Mr. T. D. H. Allan (W.A.) and seconded by Mr. Lenehan (Qld.), was carried unanimously.

"That the Board, as constituted at present, continue at least until the next meeting of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia, unless new material is brought forward.

(2) Articles of Association.

The Chairman referred briefly to alterations of the articles of association from time to time, mentioning the change in 1952, whereby secrecy would be assured in any future election for the directorate. He invited the Interstate representatives to draw attention to any particular articles which should be amended in order to keep the company abreast of developments.

(3) Chemists' Indemnity Insurance.

The Chairman remarked that at the time of the Brisbane Conference (1951) concern was felt in some States at the (then) prospective increase in the minimum cover for chemists' indemnity to £1000. The directors would like to know whether any of the fears then expressed had been realised.

Mr. Avenell replied that there had been no trouble in the West over the £1000 cover. On the contrary, some members had asked for £5000 cover and one had wanted £10,000. The latter amount, however, was above the maximum provided in the arrangement with the insurance company.

Mr. Leggo said he thought he should bring forward for discussion the changes that had taken place in the *modus operandi* of pharmacy, in that, for instance, goods, such as **infra-red lamps and ultra-violet lamps**, had come into being and were now dispensed sometimes on doctors' prescriptions. Certain steps had been taken to examine the legal position associated with these lamps, and it seemed that they hardly came within the ambit of the indemnity cover.

The Chairman said the directors had raised this question upwards of six months ago with Melbourne Fire Office Ltd., which, in turn, had conferred with its Sydney office. The directors had not been able to carry the matter any further, because they were still waiting on final word from the Melbourne Fire Office.

It was brought out in the subsequent discussion that the delay in the reply from Sydney Fire Office had been occasioned by the fact that the legal opinion, in course of preparation, could not be rounded off until further facts (not then available) were before counsel.

After another representative had drawn attention to a **hearing-aid** being sold in some pharmacies, it was pointed out that the taking of a wax impression by a chemist for a personal mould would be outside the ambit of pharmacy.

The Chairman said the P.D.L. had to watch these advances, particularly when there were advances outside the normal functions of pharmacy. Irrespective of whether they were advances or not, they were introducing something different into pharmacy.

After further discussion, Mr. Hall suggested that it would be desirable that, before any line was marketed under Guild approval, the advice of P.D.L. regarding the application of indemnity insurance should first be obtained. The meeting unanimously approved this

suggestion being conveyed to the Federal secretary of the Guild for transmission to the Federal Council.

(4) General Insurances: Dissemination of Information.

Following a suggestion made by the Western Australian representatives at a similar P.D.L. meeting in Brisbane, a summary of insurances available was prepared with the assistance of Melbourne Fire Office Ltd. and issued in leaflet form, under the title, **"Adequate Insurance is Vital in All Business."**

The Chairman said it had been possible, through the courtesy of the Dean of the College of Pharmacy in Melbourne, to place a copy of this leaflet in the hands of first and second year apprentices in Victoria. The leaflet had been sent to members of the P.D.L. in 1951, immediately following the Brisbane Conference, and file copies for adaptation to the needs of other States had been forwarded to the branch offices at that time.

It was agreed that representatives, on their return, should make such alterations as were necessary to bring this leaflet into line with the conditions within their respective States and forward the altered draft to the secretary at the head office.

General Public Risk Insurance.

It was felt that the present premium scale for this very necessary insurance operated against its wider acceptance by members. Representations had been made with a view to chemists being placed in a separate category, carrying lower premium rates, as it was considered that the basis of computation of the premium was loaded unfairly against chemists, because of their higher wages in relation to smaller customer traffic when compared with other businesses with which they were grouped on the same rates of premium.

The representations to the insurance companies would be continued.

(5) Advertising of P.D.L. ("A.J.P. and "Gilseal news").

The Chairman drew attention to a change in the form of P.D.L. advertising, introduced in the Journal recently, and he mentioned that space for regular announcements in "Gilseal News" had been made available by the State branches of the Guild in Victoria and Queensland. This generous gesture was greatly appreciated by the directors. Furthermore, it would help to bring to the notice of non-members the valuable assistance available to them and the necessary insurance covers offered through the P.D.L.

Mr. Avenell said it seemed to him that the most effective advertising of this type of business was what might be called "case advertising." Outlines of cases were given in the annual reports, dealing with claims that had been handled, and showing the benefit the P.D.L. had been to the members concerned. Without mentioning the names of members involved, he thought it would be an advantage to summarise these cases one by one from month to month in the Journal, so that there would be continuing and effective publicity.

(6) Next P.D.L. Conference.

Mr. Avenell remarked that the P.D.L. meeting at Brisbane (and it had been their experience again in Sydney) had had to be rushed through because of the lack of time. At such Interstate meetings he thought they could spend a lot more time beneficially in the interests of the company. He suggested that in the arranging of the programme for the next Conference a full day should be set apart for P.D.L. affairs—a day that would not clash with any other meeting.

It was agreed that this suggestion should be kept in mind and forwarded to the Pharmaceutical Association.

The Conference closed at 5.30 p.m., after a vote of thanks to the Chairman had been proposed by Mr. T. D. H. Allan and supported by Mr. Holloway and Mr. Cox, who suggested they should also record their very sincere thanks to Mr. T. G. Allen, the secretary, for his part in the proceedings.

The Women's Section

Correspondent: Miss A. K. Anderson.

As the Journal is mainly devoted to reports of the Conference this month, and space is limited, the monthly meetings of the State organisations will be held over till next issue, in order that the report of the combined meeting of the Women Pharmacists' Associations and the inaugural meeting of the Australian Federation of Women Pharmaceutical Chemists, both held in Sydney, may be reported for the benefit of all States.

MINUTES OF THE COMBINED MEETING OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA.

Held at "Science House," 157 Gloucester Street, Sydney,
on Friday, August 10, 1953.

Present: Mesdames J. Dawson (Tas.), J. Maloney (S.A.), D. E. McCook (S.A.), I. J. Thompson (Vic.), Ross Carter (Vic.); Misses E. Chalmers (Qld.), G. Elliott (Qld.), A. K. Anderson (Vic.), N. Cornu (Vic.), V. Denton (Vic.), V. Holland (Vic.), V. Kelly (Vic.), I. M. J. MacGillivray (Vic.), F. Smalley (Vic.), M. Weaver (Vic.).

N.S.W. was represented by Mesdames J. Fairfax, J. Shineberg, S. Curtis, C. Curry, A. Clarke, A. P. Collins, S. Campbell, A. Mathieson, B. Zobel, E. Webber; Misses P. Janes, M. Miller, M. Sucerey, A. E. Belinfante, E. McLoughlan, I. J. Latham, D. Harding and D. Anderson.

Apology: Mrs. B. Carter (N.S.W.).

Mrs. J. Fairfax (President, N.S.W.) welcomed all interstate delegates to Sydney Conference. At the conclusion of remarks she proposed that a chairwoman be appointed for the meeting.

Moved by Miss M. Miller (N.S.W.) that the N.S.W. President take the chair. Seconded by Mrs. J. Maloney (S.A.). Carried.

Moved by Mrs. C. Curry (N.S.W.) that Miss I. J. Latham (N.S.W.) be minutes secretary. Seconded by Mrs. J. Dawson (Tas.). Carried.

The minutes of the Combined Meeting of Women Pharmacists' Association of Australia, held at Lennon's Coral Room, Brisbane, on June 5, 1951, were read. Adoption moved by Miss I. MacGillivray (Vic.); seconded by Mrs. I. Thompson (Vic.).

Correspondence.—Telegram received by Miss M. Witt (Vic.), conveying best wishes for meeting.

Letter from Miss E. Everett (Qld.) with greetings.

Presentation of Credentials by Voting Delegates.—Mrs. J. Fairfax (Chair) ruled that all discussion be limited to not more than five minutes. Only voting delegates may vote. Members could speak to a motion, but not more than once without the consent of the meeting.

Voting Delegates:

Tasmania: Mrs. J. Dawson.
Queensland: Miss E. Chalmers.
South Australia: Mrs. J. Maloney.
Victoria: Miss F. Smalley.
Western Australia: (N.S.W. Proxy) Miss P. Janes.
New South Wales: Miss A. E. Belinfante.

A special welcome was extended to Miss V. Kelly (Vic.), first President of the Women Pharmacists' Association of Victoria; Mrs. Clarke, first President of the Association of Women Pharmacists of N.S.W., and Mrs. J. Maloney, first President of the newly-formed Association of Women Pharmacists of South Australia. The Victorian and N.S.W. Associations are 20 years old, and it was very pleasing to think that the inaugural Presidents of the two Associations still showed a great interest in women pharmacists' affairs.

Conditions of Service in the Army.—From the General Conference session of August 12, 1953, it was decided to nominate three women pharmacists to serve as a committee, if representation was required. This committee is to investigate all avenues leading to equal conditions of service for men and women.

Miss I. MacGillivray (Vic.), Mrs. J. Dawson (Tas.) and Miss E. Chalmers (Qld.) were nominated for the committee.

Notice of Motion from N.S.W.—Miss A. E. Belinfante (N.S.W.) moved that the motion carried by the combined meeting of Women Pharmacists' Associations of Australia, held at the Brisbane Conference (5/6/51)—that a Federation of Women Pharmacists' Associations of Australia be formed—be rescinded. Seconded by Miss M. Miller (N.S.W.). Miss Belinfante (N.S.W.) stated that it seemed undesirable at this stage to form a federation, due to the lack of support from State members and the financial hardship which would be encountered.

Mrs. J. Dawson (Tas.) asked if it was constitutional to rescind a motion. Miss J. Latham (N.S.W.) had advice on the matter and it was quite constitutional.

Miss F. Smalley (Vic.) read extracts from a letter from West Australia, stating that they were now willing to federate.

Miss Miller (N.S.W.): You need a very strong State organisation to have a good Federal body—must have active support from every member, so that jobs do not fall on a few willing people. The expense can be more than expected, and, to have a good Federal body, the financial footing must be sound. The N.S.W. Association at present is not strong enough to support a Federal body. There is no point in having a Federal body, as a combined meeting can be held at each conference without incurring the expense.

Mrs. I. J. Thompson (Vic.): There may be no difference in a federation, but federation would help to carry out the aims and objects of each Association.

Mrs. Campbell (N.S.W.): If all States were as meeting-minded as Victoria, then all correspondence between States would be answered promptly—then federation would be desirable—but, as this was not the case in all States, federation could not be successful.

Miss A. Belinfante (N.S.W.) explained that the "No" vote by N.S.W. at the Brisbane Conference was due to insufficient knowledge of the matter, as correspondence from Brisbane had gone astray.

Mrs. J. Dawson (Tas.): Tasmania is very keen to federate. Tasmania, being isolated, a Federal body would help and would probably strengthen State Associations.

Mrs. J. Maloney (S.A.): South Australia at first was against federation and thought they may be able to join at a later date. Now they were very strong for federation.

Miss E. Chalmers (Qld.): Form a federation. If we are going to ask for equal pay—"conditions of service"—we must be a Federal body. As South Australia is present, it is a pity to let two years go without forming a federation. Let's choose a secretary. The voice of Australia is much better than the voice of each State. It will be a voice that will be heard.

Mrs. Webber (N.S.W.): If we start a Federal body it is no good starting unless good financial arrangements

are made. How could such a federation be financed successfully in Australia when the distances are so vast?

Miss P. Janes (N.S.W.) (Proxy for W.A.): If distances are so great what matters are so important as to require interstate travel?

Miss Curtis (N.S.W.): Which State would be willing to do the most work?

Miss F. Smalley (Vic.): According to proposed constitution, president and secretary are elected from same State, and this honour is accorded the various States in turn. I do not like this negative attitude. Look what could be done internationally.

Mrs. Webber (N.S.W.): Delegates to the Conference paid their own expenses, but delegates representing a Federal body should be financed from the organisation.

Mrs. Maloney (S.A.) asked if there were to be meetings between conferences and some would be prepared to pay their own way.

Mrs. Campbell (N.S.W.): Would the committee elected now be obliged to attend the next Conference?

Miss Chalmers (Qld.): Any members of State Associations public spirited enough would be able to attend such a meeting.

Mrs. Maloney (S.A.): If federation is formed, could the president be in the State in which the next Conference is to be held?

Miss MacGillivray (Vic.): Federation would give us strength and recognition. The president would be working for the next Conference.

Mrs. Maloney (S.A.) spoke of the generosity of N.S.W.

Mrs. Dawson (Tas.): Women pharmacists in Tasmania were very keen when they knew that federation was to be discussed. They did all they could in their power to send a delegate.

A vote was then taken on the motion—

N.S.W.: For.

W.A., S.A., Vic., Queensland, Tasmania: Against. The motion was defeated.

Discussion of the Proposed Federal Constitution.

At this juncture it was decided to send letters of greetings to Miss Witt (Vic.) for helping with the drafting of the proposed Federal constitution, also greetings to Miss E. Everett (Qld.), Mrs. Lucraft and Mrs. Heaney (W.A.), Mrs. H. Morrow (S.A.) Miss Williams (Tas.) and Miss D. Brighthouse, secretary of Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.

After discussion, it was decided to call the new Federal body the Australian Federation of Women Pharmacists.

Miss Miller (N.S.W.) then proposed a toast to the newly formed Federation.

Miss Belinfante (N.S.W.) moved that loyal greetings be sent to the Queen from the Coronation year meeting of the Australian Federation of Women Pharmacists. Seconded by Miss E. Chalmers (Qld.). Carried.

After discussion the constitution, as set out, was adopted.

Miss F. Smalley (Vic.) thanked Mrs. Fairfax for the able manner in which she had conducted the meeting.

The meeting was then adjourned until August 17, 1953.

Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF WOMEN PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS,

held at the Pickwick Club, Sydney, on Monday,
August 17, 1953.

Present: Mesdames J. Dawson (Tas.), J. Maloney (S.A.), D. McCook (S.A.), I. J. Thompson (Vic.), Ross Carter (Vic.); Misses E. Chalmers (Qld.), G. Elliot (Qld.), A. K. Anderson (Vic.), J. M. Caird (Vic.), V. Denton

(Vic.), V. Holland (Vic.), V. Kelly (Vic.), I. M. J. MacGillivray (Vic.), F. Smalley (Vic.).

N.S.W. was represented by Mesdames J. Fairfax, C. Curry, S. Curtis, E. Bennett, E. Webber, J. Shineberg, A. Mathieson, R. Perman, J. Ford, E. Clarke, M. Fischer, H. Slaktz, S. Campbell, B. Zobel, G. Carter, H. Owen, B. Thompson, A. Downes, R. Wishart, A. P. Collins; Misses E. McLaughlin, K. Moher, I. Mackie, J. Hobbes, Davie, P. Janes, S. A. Mackie, E. Palmi, K. Chilton, N. Polson, Q. Anderson, D. Harding, P. M. Larwood, Gorry, T. Bryant, Q. S. Belinfante, M. Sweeney, I. J. Latham, M. Miller, H. Bradley, K. Bradsworth, J. Joseph, J. Stuart, D. Steinbeck, R. Streeton, I. McCarron, D. K. Large, B. Moore.

The president of N.S.W. Association, Mrs. J. Fairfax, opened the meeting by proposing a toast to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

A welcome was extended to all visiting pharmaceutical chemists and also the N.S.W. members present. Mrs. Fairfax presented each visiting delegate with a small memento of the Sydney meeting.

Best wishes were received for the meeting from Miss E. M. Witt (Vic.) and Miss E. Everett and Mrs. L. Carlson (Qld.).

The notice of motion to rescind the motion from N.S.W. was defeated by five votes to one at the meeting on August 14, 1953.

Mrs. Clarke (N.S.W.) moved that federation be adopted. Miss MacGillivray (Vic.) seconded. Carried unanimously.

Miss M. Miller (N.S.W.) moved the adoption of the Federal Constitution, with amendments. Seconded Mrs. J. Maloney (S.A.).

Miss E. Chalmers (Qld.) moved an amendment to the motion moved and seconded at the meeting on Friday, August 14, 1953, viz:—

"That in accordance with motion passed at the General Conference Session of the Pharmaceutical Association on August 17, 1953, the name of the Australian Federation of Women Pharmacists be changed to that of 'THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF WOMEN PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS.'"

Seconded by Mrs. McCook (S.A.). All in favour.

Miss A. K. Anderson (Vic.) read the remit from Victoria and asked for a discussion by the various States:—

"That 'The Women's Page' in 'The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy' be altered to 'The Women's Section' and that lectures in any State of special interest to pharmacy in general be reported fully for the benefit of all readers."

Miss Chalmers (Qld.) said that some lectures from Queensland had been curtailed and asked if too much space had been taken up.

Miss Anderson (Vic.) replied that she had at all times used all the information supplied and at times had had to enlarge on some matters.

Miss I. J. Latham (N.S.W.) spoke of the difficulty in fully reporting lectures when notes were not supplied by lecturer. Several lectures during the year had been almost fully reported by N.S.W.

Miss Bryant (N.S.W.) inquired how many pages would be available for the Women's Section.

Miss Anderson (Vic.) replied that the matter would be left to the Editor.

Miss MacGillivray (Vic.) suggested that whenever a lecture was of special interest, the lecturer might be willing to supply notes.

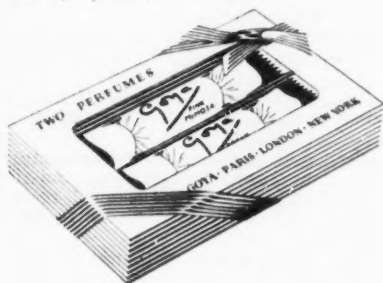
Miss E. Chalmers (Qld.) asked if the two meetings of the women Pharmaceutical chemists could be fully reported and be included in the Conference issue of the "A.J.P."

Miss A. Anderson (Vic.) said that the Editor had been approached and that a full report of the women's meetings would appear in the Conference issue of the "A.J.P."

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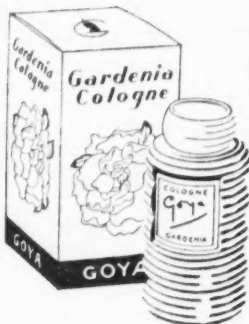
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in the Women's Section and not in the General Conference report.

Miss Chalmers (Qld.) asked if all appropriate alterations to the constitution would appear in the "A.J.P."

Miss Bryant (N.S.W.) moved the remit from Victoria be accepted. Seconded by Miss E. Chalmers (Qld.).

Election of Office-Bearers for the Federal Council.—The following were elected:—

President: Miss Freda Smalley (Vic.).

Vice-Presidents: Mrs. J. Maloney (S.A.) and Miss I. J. Latham (N.S.W.).

Hon. Secretary: Miss I. MacGillivray (Vic.).

Hon. Treasurer: Miss G. Elliot (Qld.).

After her election as First President of the Australian Federation of Women Pharmaceutical Chemists, Miss F. Smalley was presented with a shoulder spray by Mrs. J. Fairfax. Miss F. Smalley then took the chair.

The next meeting of the Federation will be held in Melbourne in 1956, during the Conference of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia.

General Business.

Mrs. Chalmers (Qld.) suggested a **levy of 1/- per head** to start off a fund for the Federation. Seconded by Mrs. Webber (N.S.W.).

Miss Chalmers (Qld.) moved a **vote of thanks to Miss Anderson (Vic.)** for the work which she had done in compiling the notes for the Women's Page in the "A.J.P." She pointed out that it had not been an easy job. Many times the news from each State had to be in the Editor's hands by the time perhaps one State is holding its monthly meeting. The work done by Miss Anderson so willingly and capably, in a voluntary capacity, was greatly appreciated. We trust that Miss Anderson will be happy to carry on the efficient work for many years to come. Miss J. Latham (N.S.W.) wholeheartedly seconded the vote of thanks to Miss Anderson.

Miss Anderson (Vic.) replied and asked for contributions for the Women's Page as near as possible to the 20th of each month.

Mrs. Maloney (S.A.) suggested that the **message to the Queen** be sent from the Australian Federation of Women Pharmaceutical Chemists. Miss A. Belinfante (N.S.W.) replied that her original intention was that the message be sent from the Federal body.

Mrs. Curtis (N.S.W.) asked if the meeting could press for easier **reciprocity between the States**. Miss Smalley (Vic.), President, replied that she thought that that was a matter for the Pharmacy Boards of each State.

Miss Kelly (Vic.) said that one fee should do for the whole of Australia. Miss Chalmers (Qld.) said that, after the President of the Conference, Mr. Walter Cotterell, had announced to the Conference session that the Australian Federation of Women Pharmaceutical Chemists has been formed, there was a round of applause from all present.

Miss D. Large (N.S.W.) asked whether the **name Women Pharmaceutical Chemists would apply to the State Associations**, as it was a long title.

Miss Chalmers (Qld.) said that it was a Society ruling.

Miss Kelly (Vic.) said that it was a domestic matter and that each State should decide for itself. Mrs. Dawson (Tas.) said that each State should keep the name they liked. The name was only a matter for the Federal constitution. Miss Miller (N.S.W.) agreed that the name was "rather a mouthful," especially with N.S.W. attached, but the name chosen by the Federal body should be followed by the States. Miss Anderson (Vic.) said that if the official bodies feel that they are losing status by using the name pharmacist, and prefer pharmaceutical chemist, we should follow their ruling. Mrs. Maloney (S.A.) agreed. Miss Bradsworth (N.S.W.) said that the matter will become a matter of legal standing—then we will have to change the name. If matter comes up in a court of law it is better to be well christened than have to change your name later.

Miss Smalley (Vic.) introduced for discussion the **Equal Conditions of Service** which had been mentioned earlier in General Conference.

Miss MacGillivray (Vic.) said at present there were reported to be no women pharmaceutical chemists in the Army; that when a deputation was made, no lady was present and pay was not mentioned. There may come a time when women pharmaceutical chemists will again be required for service, so now was the time to attend to this matter.

Miss Sweeney (N.S.W.) pointed out that women medical officers received the same rate of pay as the men, but we had been advised to approach the matter not from an angle of ratio of pay, but conditions of service.

Mrs. Dawson (Tas.) said it was a very good move and she hoped that some headway would be made with the members of the Army.

Miss Chalmers (Qld.) said that a very good case must be made before we can go to the Minister.

Miss Bryant (N.S.W.) said that in the State Public Service in N.S.W. women received 70 per cent. of the male wage.

Miss Smalley (Vic.) said that the National Council for Women are at present fighting a case about equal pay for equal work.

Mrs. Dawson (Tas.) said that she was a representative on the Wages Board in Tasmania last year, and now, as a manager, a woman pharmaceutical chemist, receives the full male rate of pay, while others receive 80 per cent. of the male wage.

Mrs. Dawson then moved a vote of thanks to Miss F. Smalley (Vic.), Miss E. M. Witt (Vic.) and Mrs. I. Thompson (Vic.) for preparing the Federal constitution. The fact that the constitution was accepted almost "in toto" shows what excellent work was put into the preparing of same. Mrs. J. Fairfax (N.S.W.) seconded the vote of thanks.

Miss Chalmers (Qld.) then thanked N.S.W. for their overwhelming hospitality, and particular thanks to Miss J. Latham, N.S.W. Secretary. Miss Anderson (Vic.) seconded.

Mrs. Dawson (Tas.) said that she had had no idea what a Conference meant, but when one came to Tasmania again she would see that they did all in their power to make the visitors' stay a happy one.

Mrs. Maloney (S.A.) said how lucky she was that she was able to attend the Conference as a representative from S.A. The work that Mrs. H. Morrow (S.A. Secretary) had done for the Association would not be in vain.

Miss Smalley (Vic.) said how proud she was to be in the chair, and that the idea of federation had grown from the inception of an idea. She added: "We appreciate things when we get them and there is a joy in meeting qualified pharmaceutical chemists from each State. The Conference has brought a lot of us very close together. The strong point is that one must put something back into pharmacy, because one has taken so much out of it."

Congratulations were extended to S.A. on forming their new Association.

On Miss Smalley asking each State how many financial members they had in their Association, the following information was given:—

N.S.W.	68
Queensland (graduates have first year free)	39
South Australia	21
Tasmania	12
Victoria	115

The President (Miss Smalley) thanked Miss Latham and Mrs. Fairfax for all the work that they had done.

Miss Elliot (Hon. Treasurer) announced the result of the levy—budget of £3/3/-.

The meeting closed with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" at 10.35 p.m.



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Student Activities

THE NATIONAL UNION OF PHARMACEUTICAL STUDENTS OF AUSTRALIA.

Come to Congress.

Coming to Congress? If not, why not? You'll have a "supercolossal" time if you come—Congress is the holiday of a lifetime.

Congress, 1954, is in Queensland, at Caloundra, 90 miles north of Brisbane. King's Guest House has been "commandeered" by the National Union from January 10-17. Two- and three-bed bedrooms, hot and cold water in each room, and only £6/6/- the week—why, you could not get better at Surfers' Paradise, Paradise Lost, or Lost Week-end!! Caloundra has the best surfing beach in Australia, besides having fresh water swimming, fishing, sailing, golf, tennis, and bowls, dancing and barbecues at night, so be in the fun and "Come to Congress."

King's Beach, Caloundra.

The Queenslanders will be billeting you in Brisbane for subsequent days after Congress at Caloundra, so if you require billeting in Brisbane after Congress at Caloundra, please state so on application forms. The



King's Beach, Caloundra, Queensland. Surfing beach greatly foreshortened. King's guest house up to the right on the hill.

Queenslanders are arranging trips, tours, dinners, dances, etc., while you are in Brisbane, and are doing their utmost to make this the best Congress yet.

Application forms are now available, and are obtainable from your yearly representatives, so don't miss out this year. Make sure you are at Congress. Deposit for Congress is £2.

The increasing success and popularity of the last three congresses at Largs Bay, South Australia; Castle-reagh, N.S.W.; and Point Lonsdale, Victoria, indicates that this coming one will be the "supercolossal extravaganza technicolour Congress of the era"! So "Come to Congress."

Wanted.

Songs suitable for a Pharmacy Students' Song Book. The National Union of Australian University Students has one, so why not pharmacy students? V.P.S.A. have "donated" many songs from their annual students' revue, "Pillz a'poppin'" —what about the other States? Have you pharmacy songs from revues, etc., too? Perhaps your boss remembers some pharmacy songs from his student days; if so, ask him to write them down—they're wanted, too.

If you have any such suitable songs (with tunes), will you please send or give them to the N.U.P.S.A. representative in your State, your State Student Association Secretary, or forward them to me? But, please send them soon. We want the song book ready for Congress.

"The Pharmacy Student."

Due to the great efforts of the Editor, David Lowrey (assisted by Gerry Benjamin), the National Student Magazine, "The Pharmacy Student, 1953," will be published soon, and an interesting, informative and entertaining edition is expected. The magazine will be obtainable from your yearly representatives as soon as it becomes available.

Western Australian Pharmacy Students' Association.

The Barn Dance, held at the Mt. Lawley Tennis Club on August 15, was a great success, socially and financially (due to the generosity of the students); even though the first year students were conspicuous by their absence, and missed much fun. Remember, first yearers, you have the most to gain from W.A.P.S.A.

The hall was decorated with a couple of scarecrows to lend it atmosphere (the rumour that these were apprentices living on their wages is thought to be untrue!).

A "West Australian" reporter and photographer came along and took photos of the show, one of which appeared in the following day's paper.

Congratulations go to those who worked for the success of the dance, particularly to Keith Kidd, who hired the hall, procured the drinks, arranged and participated in the floor show, and last, but not least, was the last to leave after cleaning the hall. The committee really had as much fun in the afternoon preparing the floor, etc., as they did at night. W.A.P.S.A. were pleased to have June Bardolph (from Adelaide, where she is doing finals)

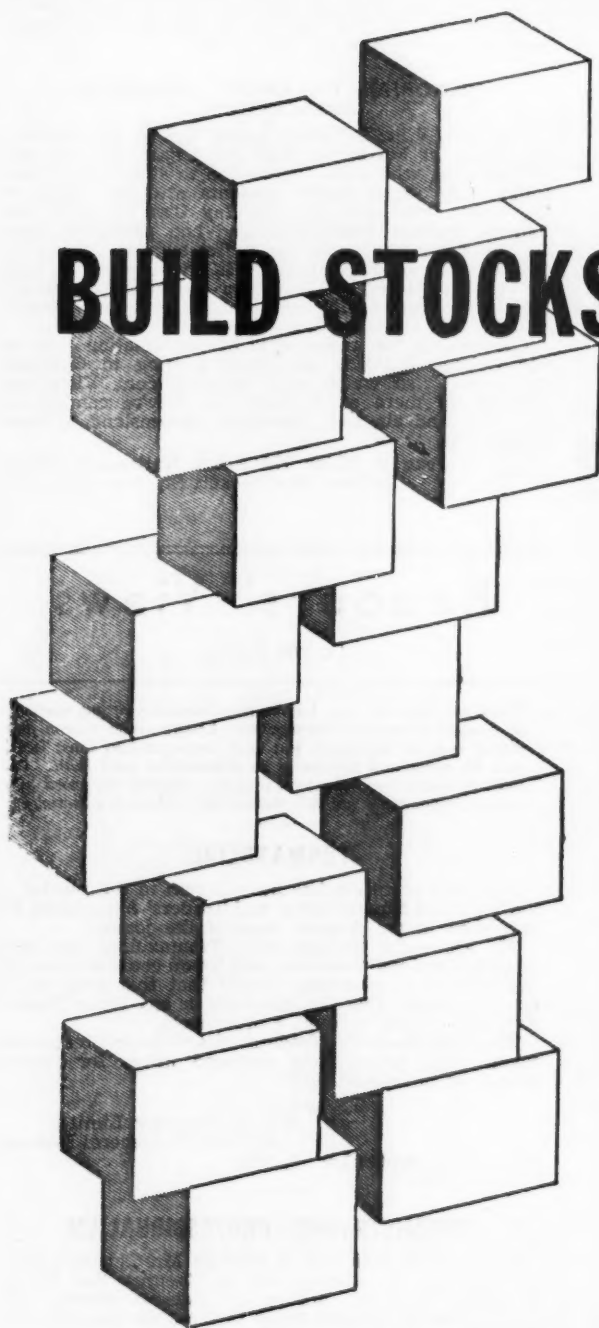
with them to give an interstate flavour.

W.A.P.S.A., in association with Rumbles Ltd., has arranged a film evening on "Flower Day," and a big attendance is expected.

Any suggestions for W.A.P.S.A. may be posted on the W.A.P.S.A. notice board, in an envelope or open.

•ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY PHARMACY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

On August 18, A.U.P.S.A. held its Annual Students' Dinner at the Hotel Adelaide. About 50-60 students were present, and a good time was had by all. Toasts



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were proposed to the Queen, Pharmacy Board, Society, Guild, Women Pharmacists, and N.U.P.S.A. The dinner finished about 11 p.m., with everyone in high spirits.

The dinner was the big wind-up of the year, as exams. are now drawing too close to be comfortable.



Mrs. Chantanie Phanchet, from Siam, a pharmacy student at the Adelaide University, rehearsing her Siamese dance for the International Variety Concert, in aid of the University's Student Relief Appeal for poverty-stricken students in Asian countries.

—Illustration by courtesy of "The Advertiser," Adelaide.

Miss Chantanie Phanchet, from Siam, a Pharmacy student attending the Adelaide University, took part in an International Revue in aid of the University World Students' Relief Appeal for poverty-stricken students in Asian countries.

The topic of the time is Congress, and many students from A.U.P.S.A. are hoping to "Come to Congress" (if the University Army Regiment is not holding its annual camp at the same time).

QUEENSLAND PHARMACY STUDENTS' SOCIETY. AND TASMANIAN PHARMACY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

No news from either association—apparently both States have gone into "examination hibernation."

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

The Golf Day held on August 30 at Moore Park Golf Club was well attended. A trophy, donated by Elliotts and Australian Drug Pty. Ltd., was presented to the winner.

S.U.P.A., in conjunction with the Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W. Science Group, held a film night on September 11, in "the Barn," at the University Grounds at 8 p.m. The programme included films on Terramycin, Insulin, Digitalis, etc.

A series of lectures on the new B.P. and on some recent advances in Pharmacy is being held in the

Listerian Theatre, Old Medical School. Held on Thursdays, it will continue for four weeks.

VICTORIAN PHARMACY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

The last V.P.S.A. social event before the exams., the dance at Forresters Hall, on August 18, was fun for the ones who were there—due to study and a wet night, only about thirty students attended. But to the music, loud and long, of Ray Cleary's band, the dancers enjoyed themselves (and had plenty of room for fancy dancing)—and the buffet supper.

The Students' End of Year Ball will again be held at The Dorchester, on December 14—after the exams. and before the results come out, so everyone present will be able to enjoy themselves.

Congress is the main topic of conversation now at the College—V.P.S.A. are again coming to Congress "en masse," so watch out, Queenslanders, Victorians will be up there on January 10—they're coming by land, sea and air, but Caloundra, Queensland, is their destination.

—Jean M. Elder, N.U.P.S.A. National Publicity Officer, 14 a'Beckett St., Armadale, Vic.

Readers' Views

To the Editor.

These columns are open for the free discussion of any matter of general interest to Pharmacists. Letters under a nom de plume may be published; but each correspondent must furnish his name and address as an evidence of good faith. It must be distinctly understood that the opinions expressed by our correspondents are not necessarily endorsed editorially.

TROMAXOLINE

Sir,—Our attention has been drawn to the reprint of the Victorian Storekeepers' and Traders' Association list published in the August issue of the journal.

We are sorry to note that Tromaxoline has been included, and we would be glad if you could arrange for insertion of a prominent notice that this does not in any way imply that Tromaxoline, or any other Tromax line, is available through storekeepers.

The publishers of "Traders' News" have presumably taken these prices from declared prices for various brands of petroleum jelly.

Yours, etc.,

Sigma Company Limited.

B. HAIGH, General Manager

Melbourne, September 16, 1953.

CHEMISTS AND PROFESSIONALISM

Sir,—I read with mixed feelings Mr. Penney's letter in your August issue (p. 762) re Chemists and Professionalism and the Selling of Various Goods. Mr. Penney speaks of us as being 15 years too late; 50 years, I think, would be nearer the mark.

I arrived from England 42 years ago and was appalled when I was sent to manage a pharmacy at Henley Beach and found that tobacco, cigarettes, magazines and paper-backed books were sold. But decided that when in Rome, do as the Romans do.

In the country towns of South Australia most chemists have to sell various sidelines in order to make a living, and as regards Mr. Penney's remark about poaching on other traders, what about the stores and

IRON is essential for the treatment of hypochromic anaemia. This is often found during infancy, childhood, puberty, pregnancy and at the menopause. It often follows even mild degrees of menorrhagia. Often the daily food intake of iron is insufficient to meet the increased demand.

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Ferrose is attractive to children. In view of the danger attending overdosage of iron, each jar bears a suitable warning label.

A completely new method of administering iron. For the first time, iron can be given as an effervescing drink. The usual iron taste is notably absent after taking Ferrose.

A measuring-spoon is enclosed in each jar to provide a means of ensuring accurate dosage. Each level spoonful contains 5 grains of ferrous gluconate, traces of cobalt and manganese, together with dextrose and cane sugar of each 30%. Jars of 4 oz.

FERROSE ELIXIR . . .

An alternative preparation for those who prefer to administer ferrous gluconate in a liquid form. The taste is very pleasant and suggestive of guava. It contains 5% ferrous gluconate (approximately 3 gr. in each fluid drachm). Bottles of 8 fl. oz. and 16 fl. oz.

Distributed by the Companies comprising

DRUG HOUSES OF AUSTRALIA Ltd.,

which include:

A. M. Bickford & Sons Ltd. - - - Adelaide
Elliotts & Australian Drug Pty. Ltd.—
Sydney, Newcastle & Wollongong
Felton, Grimwade & Duerdins Pty. Ltd.—
Melbourne, Albury (N.S.W.), Bendigo,
Geelong, Shepparton and Warragul

L. Fairthorne & Son Pty. Ltd.—
Launceston & Hobart
Felton, Grimwade & Bickford Pty. Ltd.—
Perth & Bunbury
Taylors Elliotts Pty. Ltd.—
Brisbane, Cairns, Rockhampton & Townsville

delicatessens selling Aspros, Bex and numerous other chemists' lines?

In country towns the stores sell ten times as many proprietary lines as the chemist, which, of course, is quite wrong.

I agree with him about "glorified shopkeepers". My experience has been that a vast number of South Australian chemists are glorified shopkeepers, and always have been. They have been too busy chasing pennies to worry about the professional side of the business. Notice the number of newly qualified men who immediately join the ranks of the Friendly Societies. When I was a young man in England, one lost caste if he worked for a "drug store". A chemist does not become a professional man by donning a white coat and horn-rimmed spectacles. He must conduct his pharmacy in a professional way, be honest, have the courage of his convictions, carry out the law, do what he considers correct, and imbue a spirit of trust and respect in his customers, and make them realise that he is not just one of the common herd.

When in business I tried to do this and had no hesitation in chasing off anyone who seemed to regard me as just a storekeeper. Perhaps I lost a few pennies, but I did retain my self-respect.

Yours, etc.,

A. COVERDALE.

24 Holme Avenue, Lower Mitcham, S.A.
September 19, 1953.

AN APPRECIATION

Sir,—Through the hospitality of your columns, may I express my thanks to all my friends in Pharmacy whose good wishes for my return to duty have been crystallised in the form of a gift of a beautiful book of reproductions of the art of Hans Heysen. The signatures of delegates to the Sydney Conference (at which this gift was suggested) are contained in the front of the volume.

During my illness I received hundreds of letters, telegrams and messages from all parts of Australia. This gift book, which was handed to me today by Mr. H. A. Braithwaite, Deputy President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia, on behalf of the President (Mr. Walter Cotterell) and members, is a stimulating reminder of these friendships.

To one who has been in the thick of every battle and skirmish over the last six years for the advancement of Pharmacy, it was galling to have had to miss the Sydney Conference. The book is in a way a reward for my obedience to doctor's orders. Now that I am back in harness again, I can appreciate Rousseau's comment that "patience is bitter, but its fruit sweet".

Yours, etc.,

KEITH ATTWILL.

Federal Pharmaceutical Public Relations Secretariat,
Melbourne, September 14, 1953.

Legal

DAINGEROUS DRUGS PROSECUTION—VICTORIA

Mr. H. W. Dawson, chemist, of Sorrento, appeared before Mr. Maclean, S.M., at Sorrento Court on August 21. The Court heard two charges arising from failure to keep a dangerous drug register in proper order, two relating to failure to cancel prescriptions for dangerous drugs and specified drugs, and one charge of failing to keep his dangerous drugs stored apart.

Asked by the magistrate whether he had anything to say in his defence, Dawson replied, "No." Recalled

to the witness box, Detective Sergeant DeLany said that there was no suggestion that the defendant had been trafficking in drugs.

Mr. Maclean imposed on Dawson a penalty of £10 in respect of each of the five offences and ordered him to pay £5/17/6 posts.

Mr. A. J. Hunt appeared for the Pharmacy Board.

CHARGE OF ILLEGALLY USING TITLE "DOCTOR" DISMISSED

A charge of having illegally used the title of doctor, made against Robert Victor Storer, of Bourke street, Melbourne, was dismissed by Mr. Hill, S.M., in the City Court, Melbourne, on September 3.

He allowed £4/4/- costs against the prosecution.

Dr. S. Woinarski, prosecuting, said Storer had admitted sending copies of a pamphlet to members of the medical profession. A list of works inside mentioned "Dr. R. V. Storer." It was submitted that this infringed the Act, as he was not registered.

John Francis McCorkell, secretary of the Medical Board of Victoria, said Storer was registered on June 1, 1932, and his name was erased on May 7, 1936.

To Mr. G. U. Nathan (for defendant), witness said Storer's name was removed from the English medical register merely in connection with some advertising.

The action in England was regarded as sufficient for Storer's name to be removed here.

Detective F. W. Russell, of Bourke street West, quoted defendant as having said he authorised the pamphlet.

He said he was taken off the rolls in England at his own request.

Mr. Nathan submitted that it was not an offence to call oneself "doctor," unless in connection with an existing practice for the treatment of human disease.

Mr. Hill said he was of opinion there was no case to answer.

Overseas News

GREAT BRITAIN

London, September 9, 1953.

The British Pharmaceutical Conference.

The most important event of the past month has been the ninetieth British Pharmaceutical Conference which has just ended in London. Nearly seven hundred members were present at the various functions, including over sixty from overseas.

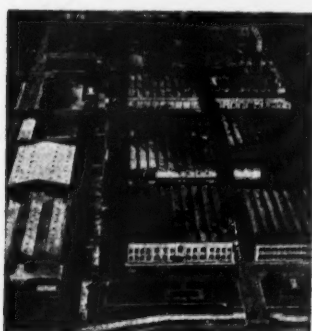
The chairman of the conference was Dr. G. R. Boyes, and among those accompanying him on the platform at the opening session was Mr. A. T. S. Sissons, of Victoria.

The members were welcomed by the Vice-chairman of the London County Council, Mrs. I. M. Bolton, who said that she had gained the impression that the conference was made up of people who were proud of the profession, and at the same time were happy in it. From her experience as a governor of several London hospitals, she realised that they were the back-room boys of the National Health Service. She usually found that the hospital pharmacy was a hive of industry hidden away, very often, in inadequate quarters. While in-patients rarely saw the pharmacists and even the out-patients only saw them through a hole in a wall, nevertheless they received from them medicines that were supplied with meticulous instructions on how to use them.

She understood that for 1951-52 the pharmaceutical cost was about 9 per cent. of the total National Health

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Purity and uniformity—these, above all, are the qualities looked for in a range of pharmaceutical chemicals. With up-to-date facilities for control and research, modern plant designed to interpret a century and more of manufacturing experience, May & Baker are well equipped to meet all the requirements of British Pharmacopœia. The **M&B** range of Pharmaceutical Chemicals, covering most dispensing requirements, is available in Australia. Our Australian house will be glad to meet your requests for information and supplies.

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CHLOROFORM • CITRATES • COCAINE & SALTS • EPHEDRINE & SALTS
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M&B PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMICALS

manufactured by **MAY & BAKER LTD • DAGENHAM • ENGLAND**

PHA 24

ASSOCIATED HOUSE: MAY & BAKER (AUSTRALIA) PTY. LTD.
5 PHILLIP STREET, SYDNEY. TELEPHONES BW 6092 AND 2196. 266 LYGON STREET, CARLTON N.J. MELBOURNE. TELEPHONE FJ 5780

Service bill, and that the number of prescriptions dispensed was 227 million. "But," added Mrs. Bolton, "one has only to glance at the mere titles of the papers before you this week to realise that your work is very much more than the dispensing of prescriptions, and that it is a matter of continuous research and progressive improvement in technique, to the great benefit of the health of the people of this country."

Visitors from Overseas.

The number of visitors from overseas constituted a record with no less than twenty-three countries represented. They were given a very warm welcome at the opening and special reference was made to them by Sir Hugh Linstead in the banquet toast of "The Visitors." The visitors from Australia were Mr. and Mrs. A. T. S. Sissons, Miss J. M. Bostock, Miss K. M. Stewart, Mr. A. E. Mallalieu and Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Manning, and from New Zealand the President



Mr. and Mrs. Sissons in London.

of the Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. C. N. Bell. The largest contingent numbered nineteen and was from the United States. An unusual feature for overseas visitors was the dinner given to those employed in hospitals. This function was attended by almost 100 members of the Guild of Public Pharmacists and overseas visitors, and was held at the Westminster Hospital Medical School.

Conference Features.

The remainder of the Conference programme followed traditional lines. The chairman's speech was on "The Pharmacist and Therapeutics," and twenty-six papers were read and discussed at the Science Sessions. The Symposium Session was well attended when "Containers and Closures" were under review. The discussion was opened by four speakers who contributed short papers on "Some Experiences with Containers and Closures in the Pharmaceutical Industry," "Glass for Pharmaceutical Purposes," "The Technology of Rubber" and "Pharmaceutical Aspects of Glass and Rubber."

The first event on the social side was a reception by the local committee at the London County Hall, when 650 guests, many of them in academic dress, were present. A banquet was held on September 1, a ballet performance was attended at the Royal Festival Hall on September 3, and the final event was a ball at the Savoy on the 4th. Excursions were held for the ladies and all members sailed down the Thames to visit the Royal Naval College and Museum at Greenwich.

At the closing session, Dr. H. Davis, B.Sc., Ph.D., Ph.C., F.R.I.C., was appointed chairman for the next

Conference, which will be held at Oxford, and Mr. H. Treves Brown succeeded Dr. Davis as Treasurer. Dr. Davis is Chief Pharmacist to the Ministry of Health and was formerly at University College Hospital, London. Mr. H. Treves Brown is the Secretary of the British Drug Houses Company Limited. He has been one of the Conference Secretaries for some years and is succeeded in that position by Dr. E. F. Hersant, who is with May & Baker Limited. Many of the members and visitors were going on to the meeting of the International Pharmaceutical Federation in Paris.

Branch Representatives Meeting.

The Branch Representatives meeting debated on the best time and place for training apprentices, in retail, hospital or manufacturing house. A report of this discussion will appear in the next News Letter. There was also a debate on the use of Latin or English in prescription writing. Professor A. D. Macdonald, of the Chair of Pharmacology at Manchester, urged the use of English: "Truth to tell," he said, "our prescriptions have hardly ever been written in real Latin. We have developed a jargon and a system of contractions or shorthand based on Latin, and that is all. We must remember that in most universities Latin is no longer a compulsory subject for matriculation. The newly qualified doctor or dentist cannot be assumed to have a working knowledge of Latin. It has been argued that this ersatz Latin constitutes a code between doctor and pharmacist which conceals the nature of the therapy from the patient, who should not know the ingredients of his medicine. Are we ashamed of the therapy we prescribe or dispense? The British Pharmacopoeia, which became law on September 1st, gave English titles pride of place."

The continued use of Latin was defended by Mr. D. W. Hudson, a member of the Council of the Society and of the Executive of the National Pharmaceutical Union. He maintained that Latin as a language was precise in its terms and, being a dead language, was not subject to change. English, on the other hand, was frequently capable of more than one meaning and had changed almost out of recognition in the past few centuries. Moreover, at present it was possible to decipher a prescription written in almost any country, provided it was clearly written, while the printed drug label could be translated with relative ease. To the pharmacist with no background of Latin this was impossible. It was quite undesirable that the public should on all occasions be made aware of the type and nature of drugs ordered for their use. Apart from the fact that the use of Latin could frequently conceal the nature of the treatment prescribed, few doctors and chemists had never encountered the type of patient who developed a psychological idiosyncrasy to a drug as soon as they knew what it was.

The debate, although short, remained on a very high level, but no vote was taken. There appeared, however, to be no strong feelings on the question.

National Health Service News.

The payment on account for prescriptions dispensed for the N.H.S. has been at 90 per cent. of the individual contractor's estimated average, but this is being reduced to 85 per cent., beginning with the payment for August. The Ministry's justification for this step is that their aim has been to make such advance payments to pharmacists as would put chemists as a whole in the same position as if pricing had been up-to-date, i.e., as if accounts had been paid within six weeks of the end of the month in which the prescriptions were dispensed. The Ministry now claims that if the advance would be continued at 90 per cent., the payments in excess would be over £1 million by the end of November. The Joint Pricing Committee for England is catching up on its arrears and it is still hoped that payments will be almost up-to-date by the Spring of next year. The whole question of payments on account is to be



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... a few drops of
EUMYDRIN
and you have the
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Whooping Cough

In practice, EUMYDRIN Drops (0.6% alcoholic solution) proved its worth in recent pertussis epidemics in England and South Africa.

Infants and children tolerate EUMYDRIN well and administration is easy—a few drops being given on sugar, or in milk or water. If paroxysms are severe, the drops may be placed on the tongue when absorption is immediate. In most cases the whoop and vomiting are quickly controlled without side-effects.

Eumydrin Drops: 15 c.c. with dropper
A Pharmaceutical Benefit

EUMYDRIN

TRADE MARK



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SYDNEY

Distributors: Fassett & Johnson Ltd., 36-40 Chalmers Street, SYDNEY

discussed by the Central Contractors' Committee and the Ministry.

The Central Contractors' Committee intends to review the effect of the Cohen Report on proprietaries (see August News Letter) held in stock by pharmacists.

The dispensing figures for June and July of this year show an increase of 13.91 and 6.75 per cent., respectively, over the previous year. The figure for June is close to that of June, 1951. In June, 1952, dispensing was abnormally low, as the first impact of the shilling levy was felt that month.

[The remainder of our London letter of September 9 has had to be held over to the October issue.—Ed.]

Market Report

LONDON MARKET REPORT.

September 9, 1953.

The most interesting feature of the past month has been the rise in ergot. Small quantities of this drug are bought by many speculators in Portugal, so that there are often great price fluctuations. The present shipment price is around 25/6 per lb., against 15/9 a month ago.

There has also been a hardening in ipecacuanha; Colombian is 42/6 per lb., Nicaraguan 48/6 and Matto Grosso 47/- per lb., all c.i.f. Little material is available in London and several additional countries are now buying direct from origin.

Papain is lower with white East African at 32/- per lb. on the spot and forward at 28/.

Supplies of Cape quince seed are exhausted.

Shipments of senega root have now reached London and are being sold at 15/3 per lb., while the Canadian price is around 14/9.

New crop cascara bark is reported as close at hand and should fetch 290/- per cwt. The shipment rate is steady at 235/- per cwt. and some small quantities of 1951 bark are offered at 315/- per cwt.

Henna is dearer with Indian at 85/- per cwt. and Egyptian at 115/-.

Since the last Report forward prices for Zanzibar cloves have fallen back to 5/3 per lb. for September shipment, but spot supplies cannot be bought under 8/6 for old crop.

Turmeric has been very scarce and Madras finger is offered, in small quantities only, at 120/- per cwt.

African ginger has gone down to 92/6 per cwt. on the spot and 85/- c.i.f.

After rising to 19/- per lb., agar has eased to 17/9.

Gum benzoin is in poor supply and up to £32 per cwt. has been paid for Sumatra almond block.

Other pharmaceutical gums show little change; acacia is firm, and there has been relatively heavy buying of the pharmaceutical grades of tragacanth.

Sales of Chinese menthol have been made as low as 35/- per lb., duty paid, and the forward rate is 3/- per lb. below this figure.

Shellac continues to rise.

There have been few price fluctuations in essential oils. Chinese peppermint is 24/6 per lb. on the spot, and 22/- c.i.f.

Aniseed has received little support at 5/9 per lb., and 5/4 c.i.f.

Eucalyptus has gone up to around 5/3 per lb.

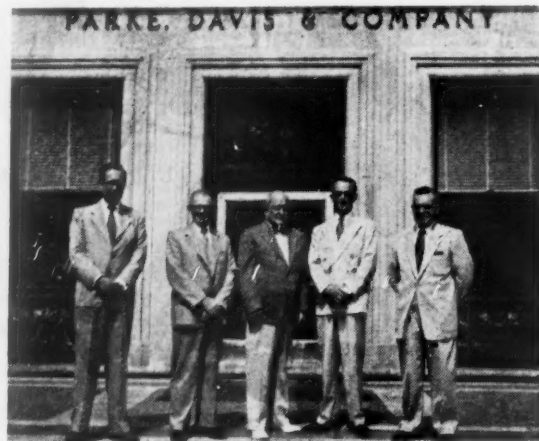
Both Ceylon citronella and lemongrass are fractionally cheaper.

No changes have been made by manufacturers of pharmaceutical and fine chemicals during the past four weeks.

Trade Notes

MR. L. W. SMITH VISITS PARKE, DAVIS & CO.'s HEAD OFFICE.

Returning from his overseas tour via the United States of America, Mr. L. W. Smith, of New South Wales, included in his itinerary a visit to the head office of Parke, Davis & Co. at Detroit.



The accompanying illustration is reproduced from a photograph taken on the steps of the Parke-Davis administrative building, and shows (reading from the left) Messrs. W. R. Jeeves, Vice-president and Director of Overseas Operations (P.D. & Co.), L. W. Smith, Homer C. Fritsch, Executive Vice-president (P.D. & Co.), Senator O'Byrne, of Tasmania, and Mr. Harold W. H. Burrows, Vice-president and Controller (P.D. & Co.).

HEPASOL COMPOUND WITH PENTOBARBITAL SODIUM.

G.P. Pty. Ltd. announces the release of "Hepasol Compound with Pentobarbital Sodium" as an addition to its range of ethical specialty products.

Hepasol Compound with Pentobarbital Sodium combines Pentobarbital Sodium gr. 1 with each fluid ounce of the original Hepasol Compound without Strychnine and is stated to present a nutritive tonic with sedation.

The product is packed in bottles of 8 fl. oz., costing wholesale 7/- each, retailed at 10/6 (plus the usual dispensing fee when prescribed), and is additional to Hepasol Compound and Hepasol Compound without Strychnine.

The series of three products is being extensively promoted with the medical profession by direct detailing by laboratory representatives, direct sample mailing to doctors, and advertisements in the medical and pharmaceutical press.

SKOL SUN FILTER LOTION.

Suntanning is widely practised in Australia and many means are used in the endeavour to tan without blisters and burns. Most of them employ oils and greases designed to replace the skin lubricant that the sun dries out.

The obvious disadvantage of oil in any form is that it picks up sand and dust—a most uncomfortable

6 exclusive sales points make
Wisdom your easiest-to-sell toothbrush



Ordinary knife-cut bristles

Wisdom's "round-end" bristles

Wisdom is the only brush with **ROUND-END BRISTLES**. Any dentist will tell you this is the only safe arrangement for gum-massage.

Wisdom's new **GEM-CUT HANDLES** in jewel colors make Wisdom's the most attractive toothbrush yet. The cut of the handle makes it easier to grip, too!



Wisdom's **CRYSTAL PLASTIC PACK** shows up all these sales points *quickly* to your customers. Tell them how handy the pack is when travelling.



Wisdom's self-serving **PLASTIC DISPLAY STAND** attracts customers and that means quicker turnover. The Wisdom Merry-go-Rounds are still available, too.



Wisdom's bigger mark-ups include handy parcel discounts.

Wisdom toothbrushes are backed by ADDIS

- ★ ADDIS backs all new "Wisdom" developments with hard-hitting press, radio and point-of-sale advertising.
- ★ ADDIS made the first toothbrush, are the biggest makers of toothbrushes in the British Commonwealth.
- ★ ADDIS has been doing the right thing for the trade since its inception.

Get your orders in for "Wisdom" to your nearest Addis representative or your wholesale merchant **WITHOUT DELAY**.

Wisdom **TOOTHBRUSHES**
by Addis

BEST SINCE 1780

mixture. Moreover, they actually fry the skin under certain conditions.

What is claimed to be an entirely new principle of tanning is introduced in Skol, sun filter lotion. The action of Skol is to prevent burning by filtering out the scorch rays of the sun.

We are informed that Skol is not oily, contains no dye to soil clothes, and does not dry out the skin.

FORMER AUSTRALIAN EXECUTIVE GAINS HIGH U.S. POST.

Mr. Frank C. Cleary, pre-war Australian Managing Director of William R. Warner & Co. Pty. Ltd. and Richard Hudnut Pty. Ltd., has been appointed Director



Mr. Frank C. Cleary.

of British Commonwealth and Far Eastern operations for his organisation's parent company, Warner-Hudnut Inc., New York.

Mr. Cleary, well known in drug and cosmetic circles in Australia and New Zealand, has filled a number of managerial posts for his company in Central America, the Orient, Australia and New York over a period of 25 years. Mr. Cleary is a native of Illinois, and had charge of Warner-Hudnut's Canadian subsidiary, with headquarters at Toronto.

From 1946 to the time of his new appointment he attended Georgetown University. He resides at Brule Gardens, Swansea, Toronto, Canada.

NEW PREMISES FOR SIGMA COMPANY LTD.

Sigma Company Ltd. has purchased new premises situated at 581-587 Collins Street, Melbourne. This very convenient area is two doors from Spencer Street on the south side of Collins Street and runs through to Flinders Lane.

The site has a frontage of 132 feet to Collins Street, with a depth of 320 feet through to Flinders Lane. There are three substantial buildings on the block, of which one—the new office block—is pictured above. The total area is approximately five times the space provided in the present warehouse in Little Bourke Street.

The building fronting Collins Street will be developed as the future general offices, administrative offices and for display purposes. The other buildings have their frontages on Flinders Lane—one of four storeys and the other of six storeys, with a private roadway in between. Thus there will be excellent facilities available for the receipt and delivery of goods, and it will be possible to concentrate all company activities on the one site.

The purchase price has been very substantial, but in view of the considerable expansion in the company's business, the proposition is considered to be very much worthwhile. Alterations and new equipment will also cost a substantial sum, and the undertaking will be designed to give the best possible service to chemists.

To this end, it was felt very necessary to study the latest developments in layout and warehousing in other countries, particularly in regard to the internal handling

of merchandise. The Board felt that the matter should be studied in detail overseas, and Mr. B. Haigh has gone on this mission. Mr. A. K. Hobbs has gone with him to study technical problems of great importance in modern manufacturing.

They propose to study some of the biggest and newest warehouses in America, and to inspect premises carrying on a similar type of business in England and on the Continent. The party left Sydney by air on September 22, and they will be away for approximately four months.

There will be need for very careful planning, and the entire question of warehousing and manufacturing overseas will be examined very closely to obtain the latest and best methods, so that pharmacy may be better served.



Mr. B. Haigh, General Manager, Sigma Co. Ltd.

P.A.T.A. PRICES.

P.A.T.A. of N.S.W.

Notified 15/9/53:—

M. HALL, Asst. Secretary.

Chemists' Section: Alterations.

Retail	Wholesale
British Patent Perforated Paper Co. Pty. Ltd.—	
1/4 "Wunda" Toilet Paper	9/8 doz.
Baden P. Morris—Cannon Rubber Manufacturers Ltd.—	
1/- Modern Teats	7/- doz.
Parcel Advantage—	
3 doz. lots	6/6 doz.
6 doz. lots	6/3 doz.
12 doz. lots	6/- doz.



The Collins Street property purchased by Sigma Co. Ltd.



SIGMA

THE
CHEMISTS'
OWN

PENICILLIN LOZENGE RANGE

★ PENICILLIN LOZENGES BP

Each lozenge contains 1000 units Crystalline Potassium Penicillin. FOR ORAL INFECTIONS. Available in tubes of 25; jars of 100 and 500.

★ BENZOPEN LOZENGES

Penicillin Lozenges, plus Benzocaine. Each lozenge contains 1000 units Crystalline Potassium Penicillin, plus 1/3 grain Benzocaine. FOR INFECTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH PAIN. Available in tubes of 25; jars of 100.

★ BENZOPEN FORT LOZENGES

Each lozenge contains 6000 units Crystalline Potassium Penicillin, plus 1/3 grain Benzocaine. FOR THOSE CONDITIONS WHERE HIGHER PENICILLIN CONCENTRATION IS INDICATED. Available in tubes of 25.

THESE LINES ARE BEING ACTIVELY PROMOTED
TO YOUR DOCTORS

From the Penicillin Laboratories of
SIGMA CO. LTD., MELBOURNE
MAKERS OF FINE PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

Interstate Distributors:

The Wholesale Drug Co. Ltd., Sydney.
Queensland Druggists Ltd., Brisbane.

Southern Drug Co. Ltd., Adelaide.
Rumbles Ltd., Perth.

PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES CARD SERVICE.

The 15 cards issued for the month of August, 1953, dealt with the following products:—

A : 50	Ammicardine
B : 48	Benemid
C : 61	Callidex
D : 46	Dormival (D.H.A.)
D : 47	Combined Diphtheria and Tetanus Toxoids (CDT)
D : 48	Diacol-D
E : 34	Erythrocin
F : 17	Femandren
H : 18	Hexadoxin
M : 38	Magnamycin
M : 39	Mephosol
P : 94	Penicillin G Crystalline Tablets for oral use
R : 10	Ruban
S : 38	Soporyl
V : 31	Vis-A-Vite

Subscriptions (£3/3/-) to the P.P. Card Service may be commenced at any time, and back issues of the cards (to January) will be forwarded. Order, accompanied by cheque, should be addressed to: The Manager, "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy," 360 Swanston Street, Melbourne.

BUDGET CONCESSIONS AND SALES TAX REDUCTIONS GIVE FILLIP TO INDUSTRY AND TRADE.

The main concessions announced by the Treasurer (Sir Arthur Fadden) in his Budget speech in the House of Representatives on September 9 were:—

Income Tax.—An average cut of 12½ per cent., greater in the lower income ranges over the whole year's income. New deduction tables will operate from November 1;

Sales Tax.—Heavy reductions, with a new maximum rate of 16-2/3 per cent.;

Entertainment Tax.—Abolished; but to be taken over by the States;

Customs and Excise.—Reduced by 2/- a gallon on spirits. No change on beer, tobacco or cigarettes;

Age, Invalid and War Widow's Pensions.—Increased by 2/6 a week;

Public Company Tax.—Reduced to 6/- in the £ for income under £5000 and 7/- in the £ on income above £5000;

Private Company Tax.—Reduced by 1/- in the £;

Payroll Tax.—Exemption raised from £1040 to £4160 a year.

At our date of publication the debate on the Budget was still proceeding, but public reaction generally has been favourable.

Sales Tax Reductions.

The former tax rates of 50 per cent., 33-1/3 per cent. and 20 per cent. have been abolished. Goods at present subject to these rates will in future be taxed at 16-2/3 per cent. or 12½ per cent.

Following is a summary of some of the reductions as they will affect chemists:—

Goods Transferred From 33-1/3 Per Cent. Rate to 16-2/3 Per Cent:

Jewellery and imitation jewellery.

Pewter, cut glass ware, ornamented watches and watch cases.

Fountain pens and propelling pencils, including ball points and parts and refills.

Beach bags, cosmetic bags and cosmetic holdalls.
Cameras, photographic enlarging and reducing apparatus, photographs and photographic materials.
Lantern, screen and camera slides.
Toilet and beauty preparations and materials.
Powder compacts, powder puffs, powder sprays, powder bowls, lipstick containers and perfume sprays.

Toilet or dressing cases and toilet or dressing sets, including home hair-waving sets, hair brushes, hair combs, eyebrow brushes, hand mirrors, clothes brushes, hat brushes, manicure and pedicure sets and pieces, dressing table sets and hair ties.

Safety razors and safety razor blades, shaving brushes, shaving sticks, shaving creams, shaving soaps, shaving powder, shaving tablets, styptic pencils and liquids and other preparations for use before or after shaving, shaving sets.

Exempted Goods.—Items now exempted from sales tax include:—

Preparations and appliances for the destruction of insects and pests.

Fruit juice cordials and concentrates consisting of not less than 25 per cent. volume of Australian juices.

Chemicals and other materials for use exclusively or primarily in the operation of chemical sanitary units or septic tanks.

Import Restrictions Relaxed.

Details of the relaxation of import restrictions announced on September 11 were given by the Minister for Customs (Senator O'Sullivan).

From October 1 the level of licensing of category "A" goods would be increased from 80 per cent. to 90 per cent. of imports in 1950-51.

The basis of licensing of category "B" goods would be increased from 40 per cent. to 50 per cent. of base year imports.

Items which had been placed on a "no quota restriction" basis of licensing would now be licensed without restriction upon application to collectors of customs. However, this was conditional on importers showing that the goods were available for importation within one year.

Commenting on the fact that licences would in future be issued on a six-monthly, rather than a quarterly, basis, Senator O'Sullivan said the change should facilitate the ordering of goods by importers and enable them to attain a more satisfactory stock position.

Most of the goods which had been put on a "no quota restriction" basis of licensing were formerly under "administrative" control. The items on the new basis include medicinal preparations.

New Price Lists Being Issued.

Most business houses dealing with the drug trade were prompt in drawing up and circulating to chemists revised lists of prices affected by the reduction of sales tax.

Several such lists have been forwarded to the Journal office, but we regret that limitations of space preclude us from publishing the details.

NEWS NOTES OF INTEREST FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Geneva, Switzerland.—Swiss pharmacists have a remarkable control office, known as the Galencia Pharmacist Co-operative, which serves as a bank for rare drugs. In this way pharmacists have many kinds of rare drugs available without stocking them individually. A telephone call brings the required drug to the pharmacist needing it.—From "Pharmacy International," May, 1953.

3 "Bullseyes" in ONE Target!



*Of supreme importance . . .
to all members of the Pharmaceutical
Profession is Customer Goodwill.*

We are confident . . .

*we can help you to strengthen this invaluable
asset by making available to you three products
with almost universal appeal.*



Boots Pure Drug Co. (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.

SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, ADELAIDE & PERTH

These are CHEMIST ONLY lines—available from all wholesalers throughout the Commonwealth

Commonwealth and State News

VICTORIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

We regret to report that **Mr. Sydney Hull**, of Glen Iris, has been obliged to enter hospital for medical treatment, which is expected to continue for some weeks.

Business Changes.

New pharmacies have been opened by the following:
Mr. L. D. Hilton, York Road, Mount Evelyn.
Mr. C. L. Drury, Stephenson's Road, Mount Waverley.
Mr. R. O. Bloch has taken over **Mr. J. O. Adams'** pharmacy, Meeniyah.

Mrs. M. A. Wheeler has taken over the pharmacy of the late **E. C. Wheeler**, Ascot Vale.

Mr. J. V. Williams has taken over the pharmacy of **Mr. N. J. A. Hobbs**, Nathalia.

Mr. B. B. Bry has taken over the pharmacy of **Mr. A. F. Fredericksen**, Caulfield.

Mr. M. L. Bull will open a pharmacy at 282 Canterbury road, Surrey Hills (opposite Chatham railway station) on October 5.

Mr. J. C. Boyd has purchased the pharmacy of **Mr. J. S. McNamara**, at Ringwood.

Mr. F. J. P. Malcolm has purchased from **Mr. A. N. Barcham** the old established pharmacy of **A. N. Barcham & Son**, at Portland. This transfer completes an unusual cycle—the "P" in **Mr. Malcolm's** name is for "Portland," where **Mr. Malcolm** was born.

Mr. E. P. Peelman has opened a pharmacy at Canterbury road, Blackburn South.

Mr. A. D. Hoogen has purchased the pharmacy of **Mr. G. H. Grimes**, at 527 Chapel street, South Yarra.

PHARMACIST AND ARTIST.

Prominent amongst the exhibits at the Suva exhibition of Fine Arts, recently held in earthquake-threatened Fiji was the work of Melbourne artist **Alfred Stone**. His portrait in oils of the Governor of Fiji, **Sir Ronald Garvey**, was the centre of attraction at the annual showing of the Fiji Arts Club. **Mr. Stone**, who was born in Mildura, is also a qualified chemist and an ex-student of the Victorian College of Pharmacy, as also is his wife, who before her marriage was **Miss Pamela Keig**.

The son of **Mr. Fred Stone**, of Brighton (who will be well known to many Victorian pharmacists), **Mr. Alfred Stone**, is presently employed at **Swann's Pharmacy** in Suva, but none the less finds time to instruct 20 pupils in painting at the Fiji Arts Club. He has very probably inherited talent in the artistic field from his mother, **Mrs. Alice Stone**, who is still an active painter at her studio in Brighton.

We wish him well in both his professional activities.

MANAGERS AND RELIEVERS.

Appointments Notified During the Month.

Manager or Reliever.	Pharmacy.
Anderson, S. R. . . .	M. Pease, Bendigo.
Barker, Miss J. . . .	G. E. Lang, Camberwell.
Barber, W.	A. Marshall, Geelong.
Barber, W.	Thompson & Winnett, Lilydale.
Barbaro, Miss R. M. . .	P. Gordon, Melbourne.
Barbaro, Miss R. M. . .	A. V. E. Coates, Melbourne.
Brown, Miss A. M. . . .	G. H. Birch, Toorak.
Brown, Miss A. M. . . .	H. Francis & Co., Melbourne.

Manager or Reliever.

Brown, Miss A. M. . . .	I. A. Reilly, North Carlton.
Brown, Miss A. M. . . .	A. P. Gallagher, Preston.
Bickerton, A. H.	F. V. Corbett, Kensington.
Buggy, J. A.	M. M. Isaac, East Brighton.
Caldwell, Miss D. . . .	Miss M. J. Dear, Eliz. St., Melbourne.

Pharmacy.

Caldwell, Miss D. . . .	K. W. R. Plummer, Strathmore.
Caldwell, Miss D. . . .	Victor Pharmacy, Richmond.
Caldwell, Miss D. . . .	A. S. Cattanach, Spotswood.
Chappill, G. B.	S. Hull, Glen Iris.
Cheshire, Miss J. M. . .	A. S. Cattanach, Spotswood.
Cheshire, Miss J. M. . .	Mrs. Tostevin, Balwyn.
Collins, T.	W. J. Davis, Thornbury.
Cox, Miss	Mrs. B. A. Edwards, Footscray.
Everett, C. D.	A. R. Mulchinock, Malvern.
Fraser, Miss J.	G. I. Heilbronn, Sunshine.
Farnan, Miss M. M. . . .	R. T. Benton, Alphington.
Ferguson, F. J.	T. P. Keogh, Tallangatta.
Ferguson, F. J.	C. G. Pollock, Yea.
Gurry, L. F.	D. L. Nuttall, Kyabram.
Gurry, L. F.	Miss A. S. Sutherland, Geelong.
Guenther, F. A.	A. H. Mansell, Glenferrie.
Hall, M. W.	N. E. J. Zerbe, Hampton.
Hall, M. W.	A. Ramsay, Mildura.
Hall, M. W.	J. J. A. Lee, Rushworth.
Hall, M. W.	D. W. London, Gardenvale.
Hall, M. W.	K. E. Hartley, Warragul.
Hall, M. W.	H. Spigleman, St. Kilda.
Hall, Mrs. R.	K. A. Hansen, Kew.
Howard, L.	C. M. Pleasance, Prahran.
Hildebrand, T. C.	U.F.S. Disp., Ararat.
Hildebrand, T. C.	U.F.S. Disp., Port Melbourne.
Hildebrand, T. C.	A. Aronson, Footscray.
Hibberd, A. R.	V. N. Carroll, Shepparton.
Jacobson, B. L.	Dicksons Pharmacy, Geelong.
Jacobson, B. L.	C. West, Shepparton.
Jacobson, B. L.	D. Brown, Port Fairy.
Jones, D. H.	A. F. Abfalter, Hawthorn.
Kelley, F. A.	de Forest, R., Collingwood.
Kelley, F. A.	P. Gordon, Melbourne.
Knell, W.	H. S. Cope, Ascot Vale.
Ludbrook, Miss L.	Dicksons Pharmacy, Melbourne.
Ludbrook, Miss L.	W. F. Carroll.
Le Plastrier, G. C. H. . .	J. Monaghan, Ballarat.
Le Plastrier, G. C. H. . .	J. Monaghan, Stawell.
Le Plastrier, G. C. H. . .	Mrs. Schwartz, Stawell.
Lemmon, H. N.	P. M. Balding, Mansfield.
Marshall, Mrs. N.	W. R. Lumley, Chelsea.
Malcolm, H. A.	Marshalls Pharmacy, North Carlton.
Penfold, Miss M.	R. B. Billings, Koroit.
Penfold, Miss M.	P. Gordon, Melbourne.
Penfold, Miss M.	R. S. Darling, Warracknabeal.
Portch, Miss J. M. . . .	J. W. B. Pedley, Yarraville.
Ross, Miss M.	A. L. Hull, Toorak.
Shaw, A.	J. M. Lang, Terang.
Shaw, A.	L. M. Hearne, Terang.
Shanahan, Miss M. . . .	L. F. Heine, Caulfield.
Shanahan, Miss M. . . .	E. Huppert, St. Kilda.
Shanahan, Miss M. . . .	G. L. Belleville, Fitzroy.
Stolz, Miss M. A.	W. C. West, Shepparton.
Sheffield, D. H.	J. Shannon, Warragul.
Smith, Miss M.	A. V. E. Coates, Melbourne.
Tattam, D. W.	Eva & Russell, Ballarat.
Vale, A. W.	J. J. Easton, Heidelberg.
Vernon, Miss P.	S. H. Sims, Queenscliff.
Wadham, G.	Macks Pharmacy, South Melbourne.
Ware, J. A.	G. R. Ramsay, Seymour.
Westlake, A. G.	J. K. Gosstray, Elsternwick.
Westlake, A. G.	G. W. Flude, Elsternwick.
Wheaton, F. H.	J. Granger, Malvern.
Wheaton, F. H.	F. J. Attwood, Essendon.



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*Direct your Enquiries and Orders to Office in your own State.
Travellers in each City will call with samples when requested.*

VICTORIA (Continued)

GUILD PRESIDENT IN VICTORIA.

Mr. F. N. Lee has been elected president of the Victorian branch of the Federal Pharmaceutical Guild. Mr. Lee follows Mr. W. R. Iliffe, who in turn succeeded Mr. Eric Scott as president of the Victorian branch in 1947.

The election was conducted by the Arbitration Court. Voting was secret.

Mr. A. K. Lloyd, of Geelong, was defeated for the position of country vice-president by Mr. L. A. Hamon, of Numurkah.

USEFUL PUBLICITY

Congratulations to Mr. Sydney Hull, of East Malvern, on his initiative in having published an interesting article in the Malvern press on "Why Chemists Refuse to Sell Drugs." In this article Mr. Hull explains that when a chemist tells his customer he cannot repeat a prescription he is complying with the law. He then gives the reasons for placing restrictions on the supply of Specified and Dangerous Drugs. The article concludes with a useful warning to boys against experimenting with explosive materials.

OBITUARY.

Reginald George David Francis.

The death occurred on September 11 of Mr. R. G. D. Francis at his home in Murphy Street, South Yarra.

The late Mr. Francis qualified as a pharmaceutical chemist in Victoria in 1911, and for many years he had conducted a pharmacy in Howey Court, Melbourne.

Mr. Francis had a distinguished record with the A.F.C. (in which he won the D.F.C.) and R.A.A.F. in both world wars. He was a wing commander in charge of No. 1 School of Technical Training during the last war.

To his widow and daughter we extend sincere sympathy.

SOCIETY MEMBERS FORM DISCUSSION GROUP.

Fifty members of the Pharmaceutical Society attended a meeting called by the President on September 28 to consider a proposal that a discussion group within the Society be formed.

The President, Mr. Ivan J. Thompson, welcomed those present at the College of Pharmacy, and stated that 230 replies had been received from members who were in favour of the formation of such a group.

He felt there was much need for discussion groups and that the first thing for the meeting to do was to indicate its desire in relation to the matter. He could assure those present that the Council of the Society was right behind the suggestion and would make whatever facilities it could available.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite supported the remarks of the President and stressed the importance of projects and problems being developed from within the group. Officials and more experienced members would do everything possible to assist.

The proposal was unanimously endorsed and a resolution was carried that a discussion group be formed. A provisional committee, consisting of Misses C. Younes, Jean Elder and Messrs. E. G. Leete, Barry Dean, J. R. Oxley, W. L. Wheeler and H. Broberg, was appointed to consider preliminary details and confer with representatives of the Council and the Education Committee of the Society concerning the establishment of the group.

FUNGICIDES ACTS

New Regulations Controlling Preparations of Dinitro-Ortho-cresol, Etc.

The following regulations for the control of preparations of DNOC, DNC, DNB or their salts appeared in

the Victoria Government Gazette, No. 777, on September 16, 1953:

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Weed Destroyers Regulations 1953 (No. 1) and shall come into operation upon publication thereof in the Government Gazette.

2. (i) No person shall sell any weed destroyer consisting or of containing:

Dinitro-ortho-cresol (DNOC, DNC), dinitro-sec-butylphenol (DNB) or their salts, unless such weed destroyer is contained in a package bearing a label on which are printed in accordance with the directions contained in the Schedule hereto the particulars set forth in the said Schedule.

(ii) No person shall sell any such weed destroyer in a package containing less than 1 gallon.

SCHEDULE

Poisonous

(To be printed in red letters of not less than 24 point.)

Not to Be Taken

(To be printed in red letters of not less than 10 point.)

Do Not Open Until You Have Read Safety Directions

(To be printed in red letters of not less than 12 point.)

Safety Directions

Warning

Extremely dangerous and may even be fatal if swallowed, inhaled as spray, or absorbed through the skin. Exercise extreme care in handling or using. Do not allow contact with the skin. If accidentally spilled on skin immediately wash thoroughly with soap and water. Do not breathe spray or mist. Wear protective waterproof clothing, rubber gloves and face mask when making up spray liquid or spraying. The face mask should be of the chemical cartridge type with canister of charcoal and filter pad. Wash clothing and gloves daily. Wash hands, arms and face thoroughly with soap and water before eating or smoking. Do not eat or smoke during spraying. Wash out and destroy empty containers. Wash spraying machines, hoses and lances at end of each shift and before repairs are made. Do not clear blocked jets by blowing out with the mouth.

Remedial Treatment.

The early symptoms may be fatigue, insomnia, sweating, thirst and loss of weight. On the first appearance of any of these symptoms immediately cease work and call a doctor. Do not spray if suffering from a minor complaint such as a cold or stomach upset. Danger is greatest on hottest days.

Repeated mild effects may be very dangerous. If affected at all avoid further contact until medical approval has been given.

VICTORIAN CHEMISTS' GOLFERS' CLUB.

Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting was held at 39 Avoca Street, South Yarra, on August 2, at 8 p.m.

The following Executive was elected:—

President: E. Beacham.

Vice-presidents: L. Fripp, H. Henshall, Gordon More and N. J. Turnbull.

Committee: E. Alcock, E. Collis, L. Faris, T. Fisher, G. Gorey, U. S. Lucas, F. Montegano, E. Le Page, N. Theggie, R. Whalley.

Handicapper: E. S. Appel.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: R. W. Brodrick.

The President reported a very good year just finished. All competitions were keenly contested and good wins were recorded. The finances were very creditable and he congratulated the executive on their help and enthusiasm in raising £261 for the Girl Guide Extension for Disabled Girl Guides and Spastics. He was looking forward to another successful outing on August 12 at Huntingdale to raise further funds. The interstate visit to Sydney was a great success, although the

something

to

celebrate!



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is a wonderful new perfume—we call it “A perfume to have fun with.” It is made in the Goya tradition of fine perfumes—it is a gay perfume—it is strong and long lasting—the sort of perfume a woman will try, buy—and buy again.

The packaging for “21” is entirely new, designed for Goya by Rene Gruau, of Paris. It is glamorous, sophisticated and eye-catching.

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Wholesale price 33/3 per dozen.

Retail price 4/6 each.

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VICTORIA (Continued)

Sam Fripp Memorial Cup was lost to New South Wales; but he had great hopes that Victoria would recover it when New South Wales visited Victoria in March, 1954.

A very full programme had been drawn up for the season 1953-54. With his vigorous new committee, he was looking forward to another splendid year.

Charity Day Outing at Huntingdale Links, August 12.

This day, sandwiched among so many inclement ones, was really something special. A few early morning drizzles cleared and left the rest of the day bright and excellent weather for golfing.

Naturally, Charity Day receives a great help from the trade, and members and chemists with their friends mustered strongly.

The four ball best ball 18 holes was won by Messrs. Gregory and Woolcock, with a score of 6 up.

Nine holes "out" by Messrs. E. Beacham and Alan Shaffer, 4 up.

Nine holes "in" by Messrs. Hallett and Sleigh, 4 up.

The scoring on the matches was very close, many excellent cards being returned.

On returning to the club house, all were regaled with refreshments provided by the club, who each year allot to us one day for this charity event. The executive appreciates this gesture and look forward to this event on Huntingdale, who spare nothing to see that all their visitors are well cared for.

From the trade and others the fund benefited to the extent of £74-odd by donations. Entries and the support given to the wheel, which disposed of many valuable and pleasing prizes, pushed the total to a return approximating £274-odd, which will be duly dispensed to the Spastics, Children's Hospital and the Girl Guide Extension.

The President, Mr. Beacham, during a brief interlude in the excitement, presented the prizes as won above, congratulating the winners. He thanked the trade in general for its support, the members and visitors for their entries and help, and the executive of the Huntingdale Club for the use of their links and the excellent service.

Each of the winners responded to congratulations and the President of Huntingdale expressed his club's pleasure at being able to entertain us, hoping that we would continue to hold this function with them.

As this was the first event on the 1953-54 programme, its success was praiseworthy indeed.

The next big outing would be the Chemists' and Druggists' Cup, which would be held at Woodlands on October 6, when a large attendance was anticipated. The season is certainly going to be a bumper one.

Programmes of events and entry forms for this day were obtainable from the wholesale houses or from the Hon. Secretary about the middle of September.

—R. W. Brodrick, Hon. Secretary,
13 Bay Street, Brighton.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE GEELONG CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual dinner of the Geelong Chemists' Association was held at the A.B.C. Cafe, Moorabool Street, Geelong, on September 24, at 6.30 p.m.

In accordance with what is now an established custom in the Association, invitations were extended to representatives of Parliament, municipal representatives, the presidents of the Geelong Chamber of Commerce and the Retail Traders' Association.

A contingent of representatives of the various pharmaceutical organisations from Melbourne also attended and this time included two representatives of the newly-formed Federation of Women Pharmacists of

Australia, Miss Jessie M. Caird and Miss Agnes K. Anderson.

The Hon. D. P. Ferguson, M.L.C., and Mr. J. McR. Dunn, M.L.A., were the Parliamentary representatives present and apologies were recorded from Sir Thomas Maltby and Mr. Hubert Opperman, from whom a telegram was received.

Mr. A. E. Bell, President of the Association, presided. During the function many expressions of regret were heard concerning the illness of the immediate Past President, Mr. B. L. Warner, whose enthusiasm and high spirits had done so much to make this annual function the success that it is and whose influence in bringing about a harmonious relationship has so often been cited as an example to be followed.

The toast of Parliament was proposed by Mr. Wishart, who extended a particularly warm welcome to the two representatives of the State Parliament who were present. He said the meeting was honoured in having them there. Geelong chemists had at all times endeavoured to stand right behind their Parliamentary representatives and the Government in their efforts to protect the welfare of the people, and would continue to do so, no matter what party was in power.

The response to the toast was by Mr. J. McR. Dunn, who thanked Mr. Wishart for his kind words and spoke appreciatively of the services rendered to the public by the pharmaceutical profession generally and members of the Geelong Chemists' Association particularly.

The toast of the governing bodies in pharmacy was proposed by Mr. A. C. Marshall, Vice-president of the Geelong Chemists' Association, who spoke of the activities and functions of the different bodies, in which task he displayed an exceptional knowledge of the details, for one not intimately associated with the working of the official bodies. He paid tribute to each for its share of work and to the representatives present, to whom he offered the congratulations and good wishes of the Geelong chemists.

Mr. F. N. Lee, newly elected President of the State Branch Committee of the Guild, responded on behalf of all of the Associations, and in his remarks placed emphasis on the battles being fought by a Guild in the interests of members. He promised greatly improved pricing services in the near future when the staff was increased and the Guild was in its new home.

Mr. Lee referred also to the need for Government assistance in connection with the training and education of pharmacy students. He said practically all other professions had Government aid in training practitioners to meet the needs of the public.

Pharmacy alone was excluded, he said, but the Society was still striving hard to secure a grant for building the new College on its site at Parkville.

Presentation to Mr. Scott.

Mr. A. C. Marshall, at the request of the chairman, said he had a pleasant function to perform. So far as he knew, no public recognition of Mr. Scott's services as Guild leader had been made, and as a small token of appreciation he had been asked to present to Mr. Scott a pipe with something to go in it.

In accepting the gift, Mr. Scott said he was not accustomed to receiving gifts. However, he greatly appreciated the kind thought behind this gift. Mr. Scott then referred to the present negotiations with the Government on the question of Pharmaceutical Benefits and Pensioner Medicine Scheme. The Guild, he said, was fighting for a principle and would never surrender. The matter of the pound and ounce divisors was a matter, he thought, for consultation, but the question of terms for dispensing for the Pensioner Medicine Services was one for militant action. Pharmacy was only asking for justice and a fair deal. He made an eloquent appeal to those present to stand firm and unite in any action which might be necessary for the Federal Guild leaders to recommend.

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It's a real **CUSTOMER PLEASER** because it . . .

12 GLORIOUS SHADES

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★ Dark Brown	★ Light Bronze
★ Medium Warm Brown	★ Honey Blonde
★ Light Chestnut	★ Smoke Blonde
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★ Bright Auburn	★ Copper Glow

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- Permanently colours the hair in **ONE** easy application.

Widespread Press and Radio Ads. Create Huge Customer Demand

Yes, Inecto Four-In-One has been announced to the public in a widespread advertising campaign through press and radio—that has already created huge customer demand. This campaign is now under way—so get in now, to reap the harvest of new customers that this campaigning is creating. Most of your customers have already discovered the reliability and worth of Inecto products and will be more than pleased with this new addition.

Inecto Four-In-One gives perfect results with a single, easy application—conditions and restores rich, permanent colour to sun or time-faded hair. Of course, Inecto'd hair takes all types of permanent waves successfully. Inecto can't rub off—won't wash out.



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STOCK INECTO Four-In-One

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HT218



AND OTHER FUNGOUS INFECTIONS OF THE SKIN

In the summer months when tinea and other fungous infections become most active the demand for a dependable preparation for their treatment increases in proportion. Undex, which has proven its effectiveness in the prophylactic and therapeutic treatment of these infections, becomes more than ever a necessity to every pharmacist's stock.

The Ointment—in 2-oz. tubes.
The Powder—in 3-oz. sprinkler drums.

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AUSTRALIA.

VICTORIA (Continued)

Geelong Chemists' Association.

The toast of the Geelong Chemists' Association was proposed by Mr. H. A. Braithwaite, President of the Pharmacy Board, who said that this association had often been quoted as a bright example of what can be achieved in the direction of securing unity. Its affairs had been an outstanding success in this direction, and all visitors present trusted that it would go on from success to success. Mr. Braithwaite made special reference to the illness of Mr. B. L. Warner, the former President of the Association, and asked that the good wishes of all visitors be conveyed to him.

Mr. A. E. Bell, President of the Association, thanked Mr. Braithwaite for the way in which the toast was proposed and the visitors for honouring it so enthusiastically.

Excellent items of harmony were provided by artists during the evening.

WAGES BOARD DETERMINATIONS

DISPENSARIES BOARD.

Rates operating from the first pay period in August, 1953.

All wages per week of 40 hours.

(a) Apprentices.

	s.	d.
1st six months' experience	45	0
2nd six months' experience	69	0
3rd six months' experience	92	9
4th six months' experience	116	9
5th six months' experience	140	6
6th six months' experience	164	3
7th six months' experience	186	0
8th six months' experience	231	0
and thereafter the appropriate rate prescribed under the heading "Other Employees".		

(b) Juvenile Workers.

	s.	d.
1st six months' experience	45	0
2nd six months' experience	57	6
3rd six months' experience	78	9
4th six months' experience	100	3
5th six months' experience	115	0
6th six months' experience	136	3
7th six months' experience	157	6
8th six months' experience	179	0
and thereafter the appropriate rate prescribed under the heading "Other Employees".		

Other Employees.

	s.	d.
Chief Pharmaceutical Chemist	365	0
Assistant Pharmaceutical Chemist	325	0
Unqualified Assistant	307	0
Female Shop Assistant not engaged in dispensing or compounding medicines, drugs, or medicinal preparations—		
(i) With less than 3½ years experience in a dispensary	194	6
(ii) All others	205	6

Proportion (In Any Place).

(a) Apprentices.

One apprentice to every three or fraction of three workers receiving not less than 325/- per week.

(b) Juvenile Workers.

One juvenile worker (i.e., a shop assistant not engaged in dispensing or compounding medicines, drugs or medicinal preparations, and who is under the age of 21 years) may be employed in any dispensary.

PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of Victoria met at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on September 16, at 2.25 p.m.

Present.—Mr. H. A. Braithwaite (President), in the Chair; Messrs. S. J. Baird, A. W. Callister, W. R. Iliffe, N. C. Manning, A. W. McGibbony, W. Wishart and the Registrar.

The President welcomed Mr. McGibbony on his return after a period of some months on leave of absence.

Correspondence.—The correspondence submitted included the following:—

From a chemist, submitting statutory declaration concerning accidental loss of a quantity of tincture *Cannabis Indica*.

From a firm, in response to a request from the Board, supplying information regarding procedure for distribution of physicians' samples classified as dangerous drugs.

To members of the Poisons Schedules Advisory Panel, enclosing suggested additions to the Poisons Schedules and asking for comment thereon.

From the Deputy Director of Health, Victoria, advising the lifting of Commonwealth control on cortisone as from August 18.

To a country chemist, advising him of correct procedure re taking stock of dangerous drugs on purchase of a business and emphasising the requirement of making a complete inventory and correct recording.

From an apprentice who had suffered serious illness, inquiring if he might complete second year lectures without resuming full time apprenticeship for the remainder of the year. It was resolved that the apprentice be permitted to complete second year lectures and present for examination, and that the question of apprenticeship be reviewed at the end of the year.

The correspondence submitted was formally received.

From a manufacturer, inquiring if toothache drops were regarded as preparations for external use for the purpose of the interpretation of the Second Schedule, Part II, of the Poisons Act, 1928. The Board rules that such a preparation would be regarded as for external use.

To the manager of a U.F.S. dispensary, advising that under the Dangerous Drugs Regulations, dangerous drug prescriptions must be detached from members' prescription books when presented and retained for a period of two years.

From a chemist, inquiring about conditions of sale of medicinal brandy. Advised that under the Licensing Act chemists were permitted to sell for medicinal purposes, but it was absolutely essential for the chemist to ensure that the supply was for genuine medicinal purposes.

Resignation of Chief Inspector.—A communication was received from Mr. B. G. DeLacy, tendering his resignation as chief inspector as from October 10, 1953.

The resignation was accepted by the Board, which resolved that the position be advertised in the daily papers and in "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy."

Tincture of Opium for Veterinary Purposes.—An application by a chemist to the Collector of Customs for a permit to obtain additional supplies of methylated tincture of opium for sale for treatment of shin soreness in horses was referred to the Board. Reports on the application had been called for by the Board from its inspector, and after consideration of these it was resolved that the permit be not recommended. The Board then considered the clause in the Dangerous Drugs Regulations providing that tincture of opium might be supplied for veterinary purposes without a prescription. It was of opinion that this provision was no longer necessary and resolved that steps be taken to have it deleted.

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VICTORIA (Continued)

Formal Business.—The following formal business was dealt with:—

Application for Registration.—Charles Morton Cripps (Cert. Ph. Bd. of S. Aust.).

Erasures from Register.—Joseph Garrick (dec. 28/5/53), Leslie Charles Langsford (dec. 1/9/53), Reginald George David Francis (dec. 11/9/53).

Managers and Relievers Notified.—83.

Business Changes Notified.—7.

New Businesses Opened.—8.

Apprenticeship Indentures Registered.—4.

Apprenticeship Indentures Transferred.—5.

Apprenticeship Indentures Suspended.—2.

Certificates of Exemption Issued.—3.

Certificates of Identity Issued.—7.

Opium Permits Issued.—15.

Permits to Purchase Cyanide Issued.—2.

Licences as General Dealers in Poisons Issued.—6.

Licences to Sell Poisonous Substances Issued.—26.

Police Reports re Poisonings.—1, Arsenic and Copper, fatal; 1, Paris green, not fatal.

Application for Licence to Hospital to have Dangerous Drugs in Possession.—3.

Early Entries—November Final Examination.—93.

Inquiry Ordered.—The Board resolved that a pharmaceutical chemist who had been fined for breaches of the regulations of the Poisons Act should be summoned to appear before it at the next meeting to show cause why her name should not be removed from the Pharmaceutical Register under the provisions of Section 89 of the Medical Act, 1928.

Thallium Preparations.—Reports were received concerning the sale at several city pharmacies of preparations containing thallium. In some instances an entry in the poisons book had not been made. The Board directed that severe warnings be issued. The President said that there had been much publicity and the requirement should have been widely known. In extenuation, however, it might be stated that in most of the cases there was no indication on the label that the preparation contained thallium. This omission had since been rectified by the manufacturers of the preparations.

Forged Prescription.—A city chemist notified the Board of presentation at his pharmacy of a prescription for physeptone, believed to have been forged. It was written on Dental Hospital notepaper. The Drug Bureau had been notified.

Motion Sickness Remedies.—Advice had been received that motion sickness remedies were on sale at airports. As distribution of these products was illegal, except by qualified persons, the Board's inspectors had been directed to investigate. Reports were awaited.

Interstate Prescriptions.—Several chemists forwarded for the information of the Board prescriptions written by New South Wales doctors and presented for dispensing by gipsies. The Registrar said the Police Drug Bureau had been notified and warnings sent out through all police stations.

Depot.—Reports were presented concerning conditions under which medicines were dispatched in a country town. As there appeared to be some irregularities, the Board directed that the two pharmacists concerned be requested to attend a meeting of the Board to furnish explanations in regard to the matter.

Forgery.—A file concerning forgery of prescriptions for specified drugs was received from the Police Department and it was resolved that legal proceedings be taken.

Dangerous Drug Breaches.—It was resolved that proceedings be instituted against a country chemist for breaches of the Dangerous Drugs Regulations disclosed, in a brief received from the Police Department.

Progress reports on other cases pending were presented to the Board.

GUIDE TO NEW PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES

Our aim in presenting these references is to give a summary in regard to each product, rather than all the information available in the manufacturers' literature. Their mention in these columns does not imply editorial recommendation. Prices are no longer quoted because of frequent fluctuations.

EDRISAL

Supplier: Menley & James Limited.
Composition: Tablets containing amphetamine ("Benzedrine") sulphate 2.5 mg., aspirin 160 mg., phenacetin 160 mg.
Indications: Dysmenorrhoea.
Dosage: 2 tablets repeated every three hours, if necessary.
Pack: Tablets, bottles of 25.

"MEPILIN" Elixir

Supplier: The British Drug Houses Ltd.
Composition: Flavoured elixir containing in each teaspoonful (4 ml.) ethinyl oestradiol 0.01 mg. and methyl testosterone 3 mg.
Indications: Menopausal disorders.
Dosage: Menopause and geriatric conditions, average cases, 3 teaspoonfuls daily.
Pack: Premenstrual tension and dysmenorrhoea: 2 teaspoonfuls daily from 10th to 22nd day of the menstrual cycle.
Bottles of 4 and 20 fl. oz.

G.F.4

Supplier: Kylon Limited, London.
Composition: Tablets containing 46 gr. growth-promoting concentrate of liver. The tablets have a pleasantly-flavoured sugar base.
Indications: In cases of retarded progress in children, whether due to malnutrition, prolonged illness or simple childish aversion to food; and in convalescence to accelerate recovery.
Dosage: 4 tablets daily, preferably taken after food.
Pack: Cartons of 56 tablets (fortnight's supply).

"FURACIN" SOLUBLE DRESSING

Supplier: Menley & James (Aust.) Limited.
Composition: Nitrofurazone, 5-nitro-2-furaldehyde semicarbazone, 0.2 per cent. in a water-miscible base.
Indications: For surface infections.
Pack: Tubes of 2 oz. and jars of 4 oz. and 16 oz.

"FURACIN" SOLUTION

Supplier: Menley & James (Aust.) Limited.
Composition: Nitrofurazone 0.2 per cent. solution.
Indications: Surface infections.
Pack: Bottles of 2, 4 and 16 fl. oz. bottles.

DUACTIN

Supplier: Organon Laboratories Ltd.
Composition: Tablets containing pyridoxine hydrochloride 20 mg., phenobarbitone 16 mg.
Indications: Morning sickness.
Dosage: 2 tablets three times on first day (6 tablets), followed by 3-4 tablets daily on the next 4-5 days.
Pack: Tablets, bottles of 20, 100 and 250.

SULPENIN

Supplier: Allen & Hanburys (Australasia) Ltd.
Composition: Tablets containing crystalline penicillin G (potassium salt) 100,000 units, sulphadiazine 0.25 gm., sulphamerazine 0.25 gm.
Indications: Infections due to susceptible micro-organisms.
Pack: Tablets, tubes of 10 and bottles of 100.

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South Australia: Arthur L. Searcy, 138 Grote Street, Adelaide.

Western Australia: Geoff. Martin & Son, 64 Pier Street, Perth.

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GUIDE TO NEW PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES (Continued)

VASYLOX

Supplier: Burroughs Wellcome & Co. (Australia) Ltd.
Composition: Methoxamine hydrochloride 0.25 per cent. w/v-a new sympatho-mimetic amine as a stabilised aqueous, isotonic solution buffered to a pH of 5.5 to 6.
Indications: A nasal decongestant for use in the common cold, rhinitis, hay fever, etc.
Dosage: 1 to 3 drops instilled into each nostril twice to four times daily. May be administered by an atomiser also.
Pack: "Vasylox" is rapid in onset and prolonged in effect, with an absence of central stimulation.
 "Vasylox" is equally suitable for infants, children and adults.
 Bottles of 1 fl. oz. with separate dropper.

VITACYL "K"

Supplier: Anglo-Swiss Drug Company Pty. Ltd.
Composition: Tablets (orange) containing aspirin gr. 5, vitamin K $\frac{1}{2}$ mg. and vitamin C 20 mg.
Indications: Rheumatism, arthritis, fibrositis, dysmenorrhoea.
Dosage: 2 tablets 3-4 times a day.
Pack: Tablets, bottles of 100.

TACE

Supplier: Wm. S. Merrell Company, Cincinnati.
Composition: A synthetic oestrogen. Each green capsule contains chlorotrianisene, i.e., tri-p-anisylchloroethylene 12 mg. in vegetable oil.
Indications: In the palliative control of prostatic cancer.
Dosage: 24 mg. daily, orally.
Pack: Bottles of 60 capsules.

SEDACYL

Supplier: Anglo-Swiss Drug Company Pty. Ltd.
Composition: Tablets (yellow) containing aspirin gr. 4, magnesium oxide gr. 2, bromvaletone gr. 2, carbromal gr. 2.
Indications: Analgesic, sedative and antipyretic.
Dosage: 1-2 tablets 3 times daily, and 2-3 tablets at bedtime.
Pack: Tablets, bottles of 10 and 50.

SELSUN SULFIDE Suspension

Supplier: Abbott Laboratories, Sydney.
Composition: Selenium sulfide 2½ per cent. w/v.
Indications: Seborrheic dermatitis of the scalp.
Directions: Selsun is applied while washing the hair, then rinsed out.
Storage: Protect from light and heat.
Pack: Bottles of 4 fl. oz. (List No. 3962).

Ro-A-Vit

Supplier: Roche Products Limited.
Composition: Tablets of synthetic vitamin A, which has all the biological properties of natural vitamin A.
Indications: For the prophylactic treatment of frequent recurrent respiratory tract infections, particularly in children. In ophthalmology for twilight blindness, xerophthalmia, photophobia, etc.
Dosage: In dermatology for dry, dull and brittle hair, acne vulgaris, furrowing of nails, etc.
 In gynaecology for kraurosis vulvae.
 For mild conditions: 1 to 2 tablets daily.
 Intensive treatment: 2 tablets, two to three times daily. Larger doses should be taken only under medical supervision.
Pack: Tablets (s.c.) 50,000 i.u. (approx. 17 mg. vitamin A acetate), bottles of 30 and 200.

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BRISBANE: L. W. D. ROCHAIX & CO., 90-92 Eagle Street. BO 677.

Absence from Pharmacy.—It was resolved that a chemist who was not in attendance at his pharmacy when an inspector called be requested to appear before the Board to offer explanation of this and other matters.

Final Examination.—Preliminary arrangements for conduct of the final examination were discussed and it was resolved that, if practicable, examinations be not scheduled for any Saturday morning.

Prescriptions for Eye Drops.—Reports that an optician had written prescriptions for eye drops containing a specified drug were received and Inspector Ahern had been instructed to make inquiries.

Financial.—The Honorary Treasurer presented the monthly financial statements and accounts totalling £1151/5/4 were passed for payment.

The Board adjourned at 6.15 p.m.

Adjourned Meeting.

At the adjourned meeting on September 23 there were in attendance:—

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite (President), Messrs. S. J. Baird, A. W. Callister, W. R. Iliffe, N. C. Manning, A. W. McGibbony, W. Wishart and the Registrar.

Correspondence.—Additional items of correspondence as follows were dealt with:—

From C.S.L., submitting draft label for penicillin mastitis suspension. It was pointed out that all of the wording specified in the Regulations could not be printed on the tube container, but would be printed on cartons and linked with the container by means of a batch number printed on both. The draft was approved.

From Mr. C. M. Gray, Senior Representative, Department of National Development, Australia House, London, a former member of the Poisons Advisory Panel, forwarding copies of recent Regulations concerning control of antibiotics for agricultural use and offering to assist the Board in any way possible while overseas. The President said Mr. Gray had been a valuable member of the Panel, and his continued help was much appreciated. A suitable letter of thanks had been sent.

To a firm engaged in distributing medicine preparations, complaining of practice of super imposing one label over that of another, referring to a different product. A reply was received that this had been done without the knowledge of the management and that the person concerned had been dismissed.

From Hamilton Laboratories Ltd., inquiring as to the classification of the product elixir diophen under the Poisons Schedules. Resolved that they be informed that the product is covered by the Second Schedule, Part II, and is not classified as a dangerous drug.

From Dr. Leonard Ball, submitting a number of inquiries regarding application of the Dangerous Drug Regulations to certain aspects of hospital practice. The various questions were considered by the Board and replies indicated. President said he would reply in the terms decided by the Board.

Conference of Pharmacy Boards.—The President submitted the following brief report of the Conference of Pharmacy Boards, held in Sydney in August:—

"Information exchanged on new legislation in all States since last Conference.

"Particular reference was made to the question of registration of aliens and the reports of several States concerning adoption of the Brisbane Conference recommendations on this subject.

"A considerable amount of discussion took place in regard to the standardisation of tablet sizes and it was agreed that it be a recommendation to Conference that the Standards Association be asked to consider establishing standard sizes and weights for tablets of scheduled poisons which are presented in more than one strength. The matter of the validity of prescriptions for controlled drugs, written in one State and presented in another, is a cause of considerable concern. This was discussed, but no solution reached.

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VICTORIA (Continued)

Suggested that it might be discussed at Medico-Pharmaceutical Federal Liaison Committee.

"Uniformity"—Conference decided to explore the possibility of securing the assistance of Federal authorities in calling a conference to discuss uniform poisons and dangerous drug laws. This is a complicated matter, because these Acts and Regulations are administered by different authorities in the different States. The Model Poisons Act, prepared by Mr. E. F. Lipsham, was discussed and the basic principles enunciated were adopted, with minor modifications. The thanks of the Conference were expressed to Mr. Lipsham for the large amount of work done by him in outlining the report.

"The red colouring of labels."—Representatives from each State were asked to report what had been done since the last Conference to put into effect the recommendation that Boards should discourage the use of any red colouring on containers of non-poisons. It was found that South Australia had been very active in this matter, but that little action had been taken in other States. Conference expressed the hope that the matter would be taken up more enthusiastically by the other States.

Specified Drug Inquiries.—The President reported that numerous inquiries had been received concerning the classifications of "Bellabarb" and "Solamol" tablets and it was necessary for the Board to issue a ruling.

Discussion took place as to whether the exemption clause of the Specified Drugs Regulations should apply to tablets containing salts of atropine and of hyoscyne and the position in relation to tablets containing phenobarbital and belladonna.

It was agreed that some clarification was necessary by means of amendment of the exemption clause, and in the meantime the Board ruled as follows:—

"Solamol" Tablets—Special Specified Drug.

"Bellabarb" Tablets—Full Specified Drug.

"Tropinal" Tablets—Special Specified Drug.

Pencils, Crayons, Paints, etc., Containing Poison.—Memorandum was received from Public Health Department concerning distribution of crayons, pencils, paints, etc., containing lead. As it was contrary to the Poisons Act to sell such preparations, unless containers were labelled "Poisonous, not to be taken," it was resolved that action be taken at once by the Board to enforce such provisions. The Health Department expressed the view that the use in kindergartens of colours containing poisons was a serious hazard and that action should be taken. It was agreed by the Board that the item in the Fourth Schedule might require extenuation, so as to include water colours, etc., in addition to crayons, pastels and chalks.

The meeting terminated at 5.45 p.m.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria met at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on August 26, at 9.40 a.m.

Present.—Mr. I. J. Thompson (President) in the Chair; Mrs. P. A. Crawford, Messrs. S. J. Baird, F. W. Johnson, L. Long, V. G. Morison, F. C. Kent (Secretary) and T. G. Allen (Minutes Secretary).

Death of Mr. James Little.—Before opening the meeting, the President referred to the tragic death during the Sydney Conference of Mr. James Little, Acting President of the New South Wales Branch of the Guild. He said it was a dreadful shock to Conference delegates and cast a gloom over the whole of the proceedings thereafter. Mr. Little was a happy, indefatigable worker for pharmacy and his loss would be greatly

felt. It was resolved that a letter be sent to Mrs. Little conveying the deep sympathy of the President and members of the Council.

Welcome to Mr. Attiwill.—The President extended a cordial welcome to Mr. Attiwill and expressed the pleasure of the Council that he was sufficiently improved in health to be back with them. They were happy to have him at the meetings. Mr. Attiwill replied briefly, thanking the President for the welcome extended to him.

College Building Plans.—Mr. Baird, Hon. Treasurer, reported that Mr. Scott was endeavouring to arrange a meeting for further discussions with the Premier, Mr. Cain, during the coming week.

Correspondence.—From Mrs. Garrett, South Australia, thanking the Council for letter of sympathy.

From the Victorian Branch of the Guild, notifying that Mr. B. C. Hornby would be relinquishing his position with the Guild at the end of the year.

From Mr. P. A. Berry, enclosing summary of his lecture on the B.P., 1953. The Secretary said this would be published in the Journal.

From the Hospital Benefits Association, submitting proposal for variation in rate of commission payable to chemist agents. The President said this matter was one more directly within the ambit of the Guild and suggested a conference with the Guild on the subject. This was agreed to.

From the University of Melbourne, requesting the Council to nominate a representative of the College of Pharmacy on the Faculty of Medicine. Dr. Byron L. Santon, the present representative, was re-nominated.

From a number of members, seeking advice on technical matters. The Secretary said these had been referred to members of the staff and had been answered.

From Mr. A. T. S. Sissons, giving particulars of his movements and referring to institutions visited overseas.

New Members.—The following new members were ballotted for and elected:—Full Members: Robert Olaf Bloch and Iris Geddes. Apprentice Member: Victor Gross.

Hon. Librarian's Report.—On the recommendation of the Hon. Librarian, Mrs. Crawford, it was resolved that the following books be obtained for the College library: Japanese Pharmacopoeia (in English), History of Science, Technology and Philosophy in the 18th Century, by A. Wolf; Isotopes in Biochemistry—Ciba Foundation Symposia, London, J. and A. Churchill; Literature for an Age of Science, by Human Levy and Helen Spalding; Crucibles—the Story of Chemistry, by Bernard Jaffe, London, Hutchinson and Co.

A.P.F.—Report of the A.P.F. Management Committee. Mr. Johnson submitted a report on the activities of Mr. Hornby. The report indicated that detailing work had been carried out in South Yarra, Prahran, Armadale, Windsor and East St. Kilda. Many medical practitioners had been visited and prescribing memoranda distributed.

Mr. Johnson said that the position arising from the cessation of Mr. Hornby's appointment with the Guild was under consideration by the Management Committee.

The report was received on the motion of Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Crawford.

Dispensing Arrangements, Country Hospitals.—Reference was made to a difficulty arising in a country town, where a chemist with two pharmacies had applied for inclusion of the branch pharmacy, as well as the main shop, in the roster for dispensing for local hospitals. He had received advice from the Secretary that he could apply in respect of each of the pharmacies. As this was a matter, in the opinion of the Council, requiring clarification, it was resolved that the President and the Chairman of the Hospital Dispensing Committee visit the district for discussion with the members concerned.

National Service Training.—The President reported that he had received a complaint concerning the action of the Board in extending apprenticeship indentures to



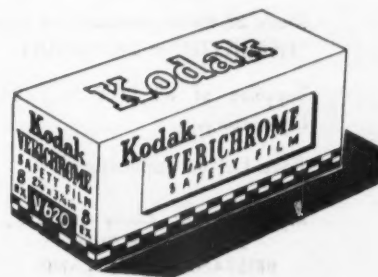
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VICTORIA (Continued)

apprentices called up for National Service Training. The member who referred the matter was of opinion that it was inconsistent to require the period of 90 days' continuous training to be made up, but to overlook the subsequent fortnightly periods.

The Secretary said that the Pharmacy Board had little option in this matter, because the National Service Act specifically required apprenticeships to be suspended during the National Service Training.

Conference Report.—As detailed reports were not available, it was resolved that the Sydney Conference recommendation be deferred until the next meeting.

Mr. Morieson reported on the outstanding organisation behind the Conference and the great amount of work which must have been involved. On the motion submitted by him, it was resolved that the congratulations of the Society be extended to the New South Wales Committee on the successful outcome of their organising and that thanks be conveyed also for hospitality extended to delegates during their stay in Sydney.

Mr. Morieson also referred to the work the women pharmacists, and said he felt thanks were due to Mrs. Thompson, the wife of their President.

Mr. Long reminded members of the pioneering work done by Mrs. Crawford, who was Secretary of the Victorian Women Pharmacists' Association for 15 years. Her interest had never lapsed. Mrs. Crawford expressed her thanks.

The meeting closed at 11.20 a.m.

THE P.D.L.

Directors' Meeting

The 355th meeting of the Directors of Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd. was held at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on September 16, at 9.40 a.m.

Present.—Mr. E. W. Braithwaite (in the Chair), Messrs. W. J. Cornell, N. C. Cossar, E. A. O. Moore, F. N. Pleasance, C. C. Wallis, and the Secretary.

Correspondence.—Formal correspondence was tabled, and the following were amongst the letters dealt with:

From Mr. B. L. Warner, tendering an apology for non-attendance because of renewed ill-health. It was resolved that a reply be forwarded wishing Mr. Warner a complete restoration to health, and granting him leave of absence during the period of his illness.

From Mr. V. G. Morieson, Returning Officer, tendering formal notice in connection with the annual election at which Mr. W. J. Cornell and Mr. N. C. Cossar would retire as Directors and Messrs. Osborn, Fenwick & Co. as Auditors.

From a country member, notifying that a customer had slipped on the floor of his pharmacy and had suffered a sprained ankle. As the member held a General Public Risk policy, the matter had been referred to Melbourne Fire Office Ltd.

From a member, advising that he had completed a form sent to him by his bank in connection with monthly transfers of group assurance premiums under the P.D.L. scheme with the M.L.C. The Secretary said this letter was one item in a substantial batch of correspondence which would continue for two or three months, during which time it was hoped to have all of the P.D.L. Group Assurance bank transfers placed on a new basis in accordance with the increased scale of banking charges which would operate as from January 1, 1954, on existing bank orders, and had applied to new orders as from July 1, 1953.

Renewals forwarded to Melbourne Fire Office Ltd. had reached 358 by September 11, and in that total there were 16 who had asked for increased covers up

to £5000. They were additional to those who had paid for increased covers in 1952.

To the M.L.C., inquiring the names and addresses of the representatives who would have any hand in the soliciting and writing of business under the P.D.L. Group Assurance scheme. Reply received, giving details.

From the M.L.C., submitting amended draft letter by way of approach to prospective policy holders in the P.D.L. group assurance scheme. The revised draft was approved in general terms, subject to minor revisions necessary to safeguard the position of the P.D.L.

To the Branch Secretaries, requesting that annual accounts and returns be forwarded so as to reach the head office not later than October 12.

From the New South Wales Branch, requesting details of the arrangements with the Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society Ltd. in connection with personal accident and sickness insurance. Details forwarded.

To the State Secretaries of the Guild in Victoria and Queensland, forwarding text of a half page announcement for the next issue of "Gilseal News." Space made available for this purpose was much appreciated by the Directors.

New Members Elected.—Messrs. Thomas H. Barker, Ballarat; Robert O. Bloch, Meenyan; Kenneth K. C. Cuthbert, West Preston; John T. DeRavin, Elsternwick; Leslie T. Fox, Mitcham; Bruce A. Geddes, East Ivanhoe; John W. Gillan, McKinnon; Miss Lois O. Ludbrook, Camberwell; Messrs. Frederick J. P. Malcolm, Portland; Alan Markov, Carlton; Keith J. Munday, Holmsgreen; Thomas S. A. McCausland, Ashburton; Miss Beatrice M. Peverill, Elsternwick; Mrs. Esther P. Poelman, Blackburn South; Messrs. Anthony T. Tizio, Richmond, and Bruce N. Smith, Castlemaine; Mrs. Dorothy Langley, Auburn.

Tasmania: Messrs. Harold S. Kelly, Burnie, and Russell A. Larke, Burnie.

Journal Report.—Mr. Cossar reported that at the meeting of the Board of Management of the Journal held on September 14 the business had to do mainly with the Annual Meeting of the Journal company in Sydney and the presentation of a report on Journal affairs at one of the sessions of the Pharmaceutical Association meeting in Sydney. Both meetings had been very capably handled by Mr. H. A. Braithwaite, the Chairman of the Journal company.

Breaches of Regulations.—By its Articles of Association the P.D.L. is precluded from providing legal advice or assistance to any member who is charged with a breach of any Act, Regulation or "statutory duty," except where a member has obtained at his own expense the written opinion of a Queen's Counsel in any particular case that a provision of an Act of Parliament or regulation thereunder which affects members generally is ambiguous.

Some members facing prosecutions for breaches of regulations having approached the P.D.L. for assistance, which under its articles the company could not provide, Mr. Cossar said that, at the request of the Chairman (who was unable to attend), he had announced at the annual meeting of the Victorian Branch of the Guild on August 31 that the P.D.L. proposed to arrange for the issue of a list of proprietaries and preparations containing Poisons or Dangerous Drugs. This would be a lead to those items which should be kept locked in the Poisons Cupboard or the Dangerous Drugs Cupboard, and thus assist members to avoid any breach of the Regulations as regards custody of Poisons or Dangerous Drugs.

The Chairman said, with these examples before him, the onus would be on the individual chemist to do the rest. A chemist should know sufficient of pharmacy and of chemistry to determine with reasonable accuracy the classification of various lines, after examining the formula quoted by the manufacturer.

VICTORIA (Continued)

After discussion as to ways and means of providing all possible guidance to members, a sub-committee of the Directors was appointed to proceed with the matter.

Issuing of Receipts.—The Chairman said he had had another talk with the Solicitor, as a result of which it was arranged that the position be checked with the Stamps Office. Advice was that it was not compulsory to give a receipt, but that if a receipt was given or requested, the appropriate stamp duty should be affixed to the acknowledgment.

Legal Advice.—Matters on which members had sought legal advice since the last meeting had to do with: (a) termination of an agency (copy of agreement, unfortunately, not held), (b) engagement of an additional assistant, and (c) adjustment of wages of female shop assistant (without experience) who had been receiving less than the award rate of pay.

Claims.—A country member who had made up a customer's own formula for a special preparation was furnished with evidence that the bottle had burst in the course of being conveyed by car to the customer's home. Further information awaited from M.F.O., to which the facts had been reported.

Financial.—The Hon. Treasurer presented the monthly financial statement, and accounts totalling £1903/8/3 were passed for payment.

Pharmaceutical Association Meeting.—The Chairman said the arrangements in Sydney were excellent, the local committee having done everything they could, in a very hospitable way, to make the visitors comfortable. The social committee, headed by Mr. E. G. Hall, who was assisted by Messrs. B. G. Fegent, K. Powell, A. E. Conolly, J. Little and their wives, were equally helpful all the time, doing everything they could to make the visitors' stay in Sydney a happy time.

The opening of the Conference in the Great Hall at the University of Sydney by the Governor of New South Wales (Lt.-Gen. Sir John Northcott) was very impressive. Other official functions were a reception by the Lord Mayor of Sydney and an official reception by the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

The Chairman then outlined briefly other functions held during the Conference, the Conference proceedings, and the meeting of P.D.L. interstate representatives held in Sydney during the Conference period.

After Mr. Moore and Mr. Cossar had supplemented the Chairman's report, Mr. Wallis said, as far as he was personally concerned, and quite apart from thanking the Chairman and his co-Directors for having represented them so ably at the Conference, it was very pleasing to have received progress reports, which had kept those who were not able to attend in touch with the business. The Chairman said the Secretary had seen to that.

The reports were received.

The Secretary said a complete report of the P.D.L. meeting in Sydney would be sent to all the Branch offices. Because of limitations on space, only a brief summary report could be published in the Journal.

Meeting with Representatives of Sydney Fire Office Ltd.—The Chairman reported that on the morning of August 14 the Secretary and he had met Messrs. H. D. B. Cox, Lee and Moffatt. Mr. Lee, as the Claims Superintendent of the London and Lancashire Insurance Co. Ltd. (the parent company), had much to do with regard to claims and inquiries in Sydney for the Sydney Fire Office. In the course of an interesting discussion, lasting nearly three hours, they touched on the rate of premium for premises risk (i.e. General Public Risk insurance), rates of commission, and the risks associated with the use of Infra-Red and Ultra-Violet Lamps.

On the latter subject much valuable information had been gathered in Sydney, and Counsel's opinion was awaited to determine future policy.

Victorian Guild President.—Mr. Moore said he would like to officially intimate that Mr. F. N. Lee had been elected President of the Victorian Branch of the Guild, succeeding Mr. W. R. Iliffe, and that Mr. L. A. Hamon, of Numurkah, had been elected as a Vice-President, succeeding Mr. A. K. Lloyd, of Geelong. On the Chairman's suggestion it was resolved to write to Mr. Lee and Mr. Hamon congratulating them on their election.

Exchange of Information with Other States.—The Chairman said, arising from the Sydney meeting, there was a feeling that it would be advantageous if the Head Office and the Branch offices exchanged information in regard to claims, and use was made of the main features of some cases (without using names) so as to guide and warn other members.

The meeting closed at 1.0 p.m.

THE GUILD

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of members of the Victorian State Branch of the Guild was held at 360 Swanston Street, Melbourne, on August 31, 1953, at 8 p.m.

There was an attendance of approximately 250 members, with the State President, Mr. W. R. Iliffe, in the chair.

After the Secretary had read the notice convening the meeting and presented apologies, the President welcomed those present and informed the meeting that Mr. Attiwill had requested that the Press be admitted.

A motion to admit the press was put to the meeting and carried unanimously. Representatives of the Press were then extended a welcome.

Pharmaceutical Benefits.

Agenda Suspended.—The President informed the meeting that he would alter the order of procedure on the agenda and ask the Federal President (Mr. Eric Scott) to address the meeting on the latest moves on the Pharmaceutical Benefits position. When they had heard what Mr. Scott had to tell them it would be obvious that pharmacy was at the cross-roads and must come to definite decisions on future action.

This was the first occasion on which the Press had been admitted to the annual meeting, but he felt that this meeting would be one of the most important in the Guild's history and it was desirable that the public should be informed of the decisions made.

The President requested those present to allow Mr. Scott to complete his address and submit any questions afterwards, the questioner first to announce his name before submitting his question.

Mr. Scott was then called upon to address the meeting.

Mr. Eric Scott: The Guild negotiators have held a series of meetings with Health Department officials, have attended several meetings of the Government's Advisory Committee, and with the Federal Health Minister, Sir Earle Page, at which terms and conditions had been discussed for operating any new contract for the supply of Pharmaceutical Benefits.

The Government demanded that the Thomas Table for calculating broken quantities be altered, as it was loaded against the Government and that only the on-cost should apply.

They also announced that from September 1, the mixed Sulpha drugs would be removed from the broken quantities formula. Mr. Scott stated that the Government had "double-crossed" us by their precipitate action whilst negotiations were still proceeding.

As the discussions developed all Government contracts eventually were thrown into the ring by Departmental officials in an attempt to reduce the cost of the services all round. The Treasury had held up the Repatriation Dispensing contract, which had operated

VICTORIA (Continued)

since 1940 on rates ruling at the time, and urgently needed revision.

About two years ago the Guild conferred with the Repatriation Department and sought a revision of the old contract so that it could be brought into line with present day rates. After three or four months in which negotiations were carried on in the friendliest manner, the Department accepted our proposals and a new contract was drawn up. This contract was submitted to the Treasury for approval over eighteen months ago and was still unsigned.

With P.M.S. dispensing we were handing out money to the Government on every script we dispensed.

Mr. Scott said he had related the points of opposition to P.M.S. dispensing to Mr. Townley earlier today (August 31) and informed him:

(1) That the chemists were not prepared to co-operate in the present scheme any longer; that the service was a losing proposition.

(2) That our agreements should be based on the Guild rates operating for dispensing for private patients less a discount, seeing that we were dealing with only one source—the Government.

Dispensing of P.M.S. scripts required skill and professional knowledge in compounding, and could not be undertaken by others than pharmacists. Therefore there was no fear of their being dispensed by outsiders.

The Federal office despatched 3,500 circulars on August 28, advising members of the position and seeking their reactions. By tonight 2000 replies had already come in, out of which 1998 affirmed their unqualified support of any action the Guild found it necessary to take.

"Pharmacy Is Determined."

Mr. Scott said that in all his experience he had never seen pharmacy so united or so determined.

Under the Consolidating Bill which Sir Earle Page would place before Parliament in November, the P.B.A. and P.M.S. Acts will be consolidated in one Act, and chemists would not then be able to resign from servicing P.M.S., as they could now.

Therefore, it behoved them to act before then. A plebiscite would be taken as quickly as possible to obtain members' wishes and act upon them before that date. Mr. Scott said that he did not wish to influence the minds of members; he had sought only to put the facts before them. He then summed up



Mr. F. N. Lee, at the time Vice-President of the Victorian Branch of the Guild, speaks in support of the motion.



Mr. Eric Scott, Federal President of the Guild.

by briefly reviewing the essence of the talks with the Government through the year, as follows:—

The Treasury was seeking to cut down the cost to the Government for Social Services, which was round about £7,000,000 per annum, as against the Treasury's original estimate of £2,500,000.

Pharmacy has been subjected to numerous pinpricks from the Government over the past years. On many occasions items have been removed from the P.B.A. list without previous notice, leaving members saddled with stocks that could not be readily disposed of. Also, many changes had been announced that operated to our detriment.

As the Liberal Party has always professed to stand for private enterprise, we have submitted our case to them, stressing that the small businessman is a vital entity in the community.

Eighty per cent. of the chemists of Australia are one-man pharmacies. They are trained professional men, rendering a vital service to the community. If the Government cuts down their professional fees they will be hard put to survive on their counter trade.

The stage has been reached when they had to decide what they should do.

If the result of the plebiscite revealed a demand for strong action, we will have to carry out that direction.

Pharmacists today are earning much less than artisans, plumbers, etc., and if we let this opportunity slip we will become just a cog in the Government machine.

"The ball is at your feet; the Guild over the past 25 years has built up a strong organisation. We have to act forcefully if we are to maintain our position in the community," said Mr. Scott. "We must fight for the retention of the Thomas Table. Why should we discard it at the whim of the Government?"

"If we accept without protest the removal of the mixed sulphas from the formula today, other lines will be taken out tomorrow. Once they are taken out they will never be replaced."

VICTORIA (Continued)

"It's up to the rank and file to say what they want us to do, but it is hoped that your deliberations will be just and honest.

"Whatever decisions are made they will be carried out by your representatives faithfully and ruthlessly."
—Loud applause.

Ultimatum Motion Agreed To.

Mr. F. Lee, in supporting Mr. Scott's remarks, gave a few examples of the unprofitable nature of P.M.S. dispensing. For 8 oz. mixtures under P.M.S., 5/-; privately dispensed, 8/3. Linc. Codein under P.M.S., 3/1; privately dispensed, 12/3.

Under such conditions they could not afford to dispense P.M.S. prescriptions and were not prepared to continue at the present rates of payment.

Returned men are being made a chopping block by the Government through the holding up of the Repatriation agreement. We should not wait any longer for the Government to sign this agreement. We should call their bluff or no service.

Mr. Lee strongly advocated retention of the Thomas Table, which had been accepted by the Prices Commission as being fair and equitable.

The following motion, moved by Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Preston, was then submitted:—

"That this Annual Meeting of the Victorian State Branch recommends to the Federal Council that, unless the Government accepts before September 30, the Guild's terms for all contract dispensing under P.B.A. and P.M.S., and signs the new Repatriation Agreement that has been waiting for the Government's signature for over 12 months, the Federal Council call on all members to refuse, from October 1, 1953, to dispense—

- (a) prescriptions under the P.M.S.,
- (b) Repatriation prescriptions, and
- (c) to refuse to write out repeat authorisations."



—Photograph by courtesy of "The Argus," Melbourne.

Applauding Mr. Eric Scott, Victorian Guild members who crowded the big lecture room at the College of Pharmacy on Monday, August 31, for the annual meeting of the State Branch, reflect the determination of the majority of chemists to support the Federal Council in its attempts to eliminate anomalies and unjust terms from the Government price lists under the "free" medicine and pensioner medicine services.

The following spoke in support of the motion: Messrs. V. Preston, M. Super, H. A. Emonson, E. C. Hughes, P. A. Wright, G. P. Connard, and E. Clark.

The President then put the motion to the meeting and it was carried unanimously.

The members of the Press departed, after being thanked for their attendance by the President.

Agenda Resumed.

Minutes Confirmed.—The minutes of the last annual meeting, which were taken as read, were confirmed on the motion of Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. McClelland.

President's Report.—The President announced that he did not propose to go over his report in detail. Members had all been supplied with a copy of his report and valuable time would be saved in this way.

There were, however, one or two points of interest he would comment upon:—

(a) He was pleased to see Mr. K. Attiwill had recovered from his illness and was able to take part in the work for pharmacy again. (Applause.)

(b) He apologised for the omission of five members from the list of delegates attending S.B.C. meetings in the persons of Messrs. J. I. Richards, 11; J. B. Robinson, 10; L. G. Rowbottom, 8; E. Scott, 9; and H. M. Samuel, 6. These would be added to the master copy.

(c) He paid a tribute to the work done by the two retiring delegates—Messrs. A. F. Frederiksen and J. B. Hollow.

Mr. Frederiksen, his co-delegate for District No. 10, had done a good job during his term of office. He was very sorry to lose his services.

Mr. Hollow came on to the committee at Mr. McLiffie's request to represent a district that had not been functioning. He had now found a delegate to take his place. The President expressed his appreciation of the services rendered.

The President then moved the adoption of the report and balance sheet.

Mr. Langtry, the Treasurer, in seconding the motion, expressed pleasure in the fact that the report showed a surplus this year. He commended the foresight of the committee in establishing the weekly pricing service at £3/3/- per annum. He regretted, however, the poor response to this valuable pricing addition by Victorian members. Victoria, with only 560 contributing to this service, compared very unfavourably with the N.S.W. Branch, where the subscription was £4/4/- per annum and the response 100 per cent. He could not see how a pharmacy could be run efficiently without this pricing service which only cost members 2d. a day, the price of a cigarette, and saved them pounds a year through prompt information on price changes. The organisation was dependent on members' subscriptions, and he hoped those not supporting the service would show their interest by subscribing to it.

The Guild was faced with the same problems as they were in their pharmacies, viz., rising costs of salaries, printing, postage, electricity, telephone charges, etc.

They had the future to think of in connection with the new building. The State office would have to face an increased rental and costs of suitable furnishings in the near future.

They owed a debt to the office staff, who had carried out their duties efficiently under cramped and

VICTORIA (Continued)

primitive conditions in the present location. He also expressed his personal appreciation of the office staff. He had found the Secretary, Mr. Glover, as well as each member of the staff, most obliging and helpful at all times, and he felt they were deserving of special thanks for the good job they were doing.—(Applause.)

The motion was then put by the President and carried unanimously.

Returning Officer's Report.—The Returning Officer, Mr. J. J. Richards, announced that elections had been conducted according to the rules laid down by the Arbitration Court. The even numbered districts were those affected this year, and those elected would hold office for two years, as follows:—

District No. 2a: Mr. L. J. Gough, with Mr. H. Spiegelman substitute.

District No. 2b: Mr. A. E. Moore.

District No. 4: Messrs. A. O. C. Blake and J. W. D. Crowley, with Mr. D. C. Wood as substitute.

District No. 6: Mr. F. J. Attwood, with Mr. E. A. Lansdown as substitute.

District No. 8: Mr. W. L. Hilyard, with Mr. J. B. Hollow as substitute.

District No. 10: Messrs. W. R. Iliffe and F. H. Bedford, with Mr. E. R. Clarke as substitute.

District No. 12: Mr. H. V. Gear, with Mr. V. F. Gemmola as substitute.

District No. 14: Mr. A. K. Lloyd.

District No. 16: Mr. L. G. Suggett, with Mr. H. W. Shilton as substitute.

District No. 18: Mr. L. A. Hamon, with Mr. A. Rigg as substitute.

District No. 20: Mr. N. F. Keith, with Mr. T. Payne as substitute.

Auditor.—Mr. R. H. Morrison was re-elected as auditor for the coming year.

Remits.

Mr. Super sought leave to withdraw remits 1b, 2, 3 and 5 as they had been satisfactorily dealt with in Mr. Scott's speech.

Remit No. 1 (a): Increase of zonal freight allowances on P.B.A. to cover the freight increases, which had trebled since P.B.A. was introduced. A minimum of 7/6 per month should be pressed for.

Mr. Scott replied that this matter was under discussion. The Bureau had been asked to investigate the position, but were faced with the lack of evidence from members. Unless members would supply actual figures, it was difficult to present a sound case.

Remit 4.—No seconder.

Remit No. 6.—Resolved that the Guild could not sponsor advertising of the H.B.A. in daily papers. Suggested that districts discuss the possibility of members clubbing together and advertising in their local papers.

Remit No. 7.—Resolved that the five-day week proposal be carefully watched.

P.P. and Drug Lists.

Mr. Scott said, in view of the heavy commitments involved in the S.B.C. scheme of office re-organisation, it became necessary to conserve expenditure wherever possible. The Guild was committed to provide members with a price service free, so, instead of four lists of Prescription Proprietaries and four Drug Lists per year, he submitted that members should receive one copy of each (P.P. and Drugs) free each year, and each month's alterations be sent out with "Gilseal News."

Mr. Blake seconded.—Carried.

Moved by **Mr. Lee**, seconded by **Mr. Scott**:

"That subscribers to the Ancillary Pricing Service receive quarterly price lists and weekly correction sheets."—Carried.

General Business.

Veterinary Price List.—**Mr. Super** inquired why a

Veterinary Price List had not been produced, as promised.

Mr. Iliffe replied that country members had requested that the list be not issued.

Prosecutions of Chemists.—**Mr. McDougall** drew attention to the number of prosecutions launched against chemists for purely minor offences against the D.D. Regulations, and suggested that a case be taken to the High Court.

Mr. Braithwaite replied that over the last ten or twelve years many sections of the community were forced to function with insufficient labour. In the immediate post-war period period pharmacy and other callings had not picked up the leeway, but there was no excuse for members to support a man who had broken the law. He honestly believed that the Drug Squad was only checking for cases of addiction when they visited a pharmacy. If, however, they found gross cases of negligence concerning D.D. regulations, then they recorded every breach.

In regard to supplying D.D.'s to hospitals, **Mr. Braithwaite** said it was the duty of the chemist to find out whether the hospital had a permit to stock D.D.'s for an emergency.

If the chemist receives a D.D. script for a patient in the hospital and it was correctly made out, that was all right; but a script in the name of the hospital or the matron should be checked up to see if it could be dispensed.

It was up to the chemists to "pull up their socks" and carry out the requirements of the regulations.

Dealing with the Poisons Cupboard, the Board had ruled that D.D.'s and other poisons could be in the same cupboard, but separated by being placed on different shelves.

Supper.—The President advised that the next item on the agenda was supper. He wished to express his grateful thanks to the ladies for assisting in preparing the refreshments.

The meeting closed at 11.5 p.m.

P.D.L.

An insurance "must"
for the chemist in business

Membership confers—

- Cover against claims arising from errors in dispensing.
- Corporate protection in matters of principle affecting the profession as a whole.
- Legal advice on questions of law concerning a member's business.

Chemist's Indemnity cover can be arranged for amounts between £1000 (minimum) and £2000. Premium and membership subscription range from as low as £2/6/- p.a., depending upon the amount of the cover and number of persons engaged.

For full details write to:

PHARMACEUTICAL DEFENCE LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 380 Swanston Street, Melbourne (General Secretary, T. G. Allen).

N.S.W.: 33 Martin Place, Sydney (Branch Secretary, C. Carlisle).

QUEENSLAND: Drysdale's Chambers, 4 Wickham Street, Brisbane (Branch Secretary, Miss D. Brighouse).

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Churchill Building (1st floor), 61-63 Gawler Place, Adelaide (Branch Secretary, O. H. Walter).

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: C/o Technical College, St. Georges Terrace, Perth (Branch Secretary, F. W. Avenell).

VICTORIA (Continued)

S.B.C. MEETING.

The State Branch Committee of the Victorian Branch of the Guild met at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on September 1, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Mr. F. N. Lee (President) in the Chair; Messrs. N. F. Keith, L. A. Hamon, W. J. Langtry, S. M. Adams, F. J. Attwood, F. H. Bedford, A. O. C. Blake, J. J. Cocking, G. Coulton, J. W. D. Crowley, F. L. Flint, H. V. Gear, K. E. Hartley, W. L. Hilyard, W. R. Iliffe, A. K. Lloyd, E. McDougall, G. A. McDonald, A. E. Moore, J. I. Richards, L. G. Rowbottom, E. Scott and the Secretary.

Attending by Invitation.—Messrs. I. J. Thompson, R. G. Ross and C. B. Watson.

Mr. W. R. Iliffe occupied the chair whilst the minutes of the previous meeting were being dealt with, then handed over to Mr. Lee, on the announcement of the election results.

Welcome to New Delegates.—Mr. Iliffe welcomed Messrs. Bedford, Hilyard and McDonald, congratulating them on their election to the S.P.C. and wishing them a profitable term in office.

Mr. E. C. McClelland's Resignation.—Mr. Iliffe announced that Mr. E. C. McClelland had announced his retirement from the post of Chairman of the Pricing Committee and did not wish to be co-opted to the S.B.C. He found that the claims on his time and the strain imposed by his numerous activities were proving too much for him to stand up to.—Members expressed their regret over losing such a valued and respected member, and thereupon discussed a way of expressing their appreciation of his long and valued services to pharmacy.

Sets of Apothecaries' Weights.—Mr. Iliffe stated that Mr. Callister was making inquiries regarding the possibility of arranging for the manufacture of apothecaries' weights from ½-oz. to 8 ozs.

Returning Officer's Report.—At this juncture the Returning Officer, Mr. J. I. Richards, returned from counting the ballot papers relating to the election of office-bearers and declared the following duly elected:—

State President: Mr. F. N. Lee.

Country Vice-President: Mr. L. Hamon.

Also the following, who were unopposed:—

Metropolitan Vice-President: Mr. N. F. Keith.

Treasurer: Mr. W. J. Langtry.

Federal Delegate: Mr. E. Scott.

Second Delegate: Mr. F. N. Lee.

Substitute Delegate: Mr. N. F. Keith.

S.B.C. Delegates—as declared at the annual meeting: Mr. L. J. Gough (District No. 2), Mr. A. E. Moore (District No. 2b), Mr. A. O. C. Blake (District No. 4), Mr. J. W. D. Crowley (District No. 4), Mr. F. J. Attwood (District No. 6), Mr. W. L. Hilyard (District No. 8), Mr. W. R. Iliffe (District No. 10), Mr. F. H. Bedford (District No. 10), Mr. H. V. Gear (District No. 12), Mr. A. K. Lloyd (District No. 14), Mr. L. G. Suggett (District No. 16), Mr. L. Hamon (District No. 18), and Mr. N. F. Keith (District No. 20).

Mr. Iliffe then thanked the committee for their confidence and support in the past, and said he would be pleased to take a rest and be able to give more attention to his business. He thanked those who supported him in the election and then vacated the chair.

Mr. Lloyd congratulated Mr. Hamon on his election to the country vice-presidency.

The newly elected State President, Mr. F. N. Lee, on occupying the chair, said that he was deeply conscious of the responsibility that had been placed on him and assured the committee that he would carry out his duties as President to the best of his ability.

Mr. Hamon thanked members for electing him to the post of country vice-president and expressed his thanks to Mr. Lloyd, on behalf of the country chemists,

for the work he had done during his term of office as country vice-president.

Mr. Lee said his first duty before proceeding with business was to record the committee's thanks to both Mr. Iliffe and Mr. Lloyd and to express their appreciation of the work these two gentlemen had performed during their period of office.

Mr. Scott supported Mr. Lee's remarks and suggested that a recommendation should go to the Federal Council that Mr. Iliffe and Mr. Lloyd be made honorary members of the Guild. Several other speakers added their remarks in support.

The following were then elected:—

State Secretary: Mr. W. F. Glover.

Assistant Secretary: Miss A. Norris.

Wages Board Representatives: Messrs. T. Beacham, C. P. Taylor and J. W. D. Crowley.

Wages Board Committee: The Guild executive, plus Messrs. N. C. Manning and D. McEwen.

Trade and Commerce Chairman: Mr. J. I. Richards, with power to co-opt.

Representatives on Hospital Committee: Messrs. Iliffe and Lee.

Chairman of Pricing Committee: Held over until Mr. McClelland could be interviewed, with the view to persuading him to continue. Meantime, Mr. Keith was asked to act and call a meeting to finalise the patents list.

Vote of Thanks to the Returning Officer.—Mr. Keith, in moving a vote of thanks to the returning officer, Mr. J. I. Richards, said that he had no previous idea of the amount of work involved in this job. Mr. Richards had carried out his task in a thorough manner and the committee was very grateful to him. [Mr. Adams seconded. Carried.]

Correspondence.—From Kodak (A/asia) Pty. Ltd., advising that arrangements had been completed for an informational slide talk, "Photography and You," at a meeting in Hamilton on October 5. Mr. Robson had suggested that the Guild might send someone from Melbourne to give a talk on Guild matters before the Kodak programme. Resolved to leave this matter in the hands of the executive.

New Members Elected.—Miss B. M. Peverill (partner, Henry Francis and Co.), Messrs. M. Berenholtz, North Brighton; W. J. Keyte, Maidstone; V. Browne, San Remo; C. F. W. Sparre, St. Arnaud; B. A. Geddes, Carlton; P. J. Tissot, Caulfield East; J. W. Gillan, McKinnon; B. N. Smith, Castlemaine; A. T. Tizio, Richmond; R. O. Bloch, Meeniyah; J. V. Williams, Nathalia.

District Reports.

District No. 19.—The representative submitted—

(1) That his district requests that action be taken to simplify and clarify the Drug Regulations and that a more realistic interpretation be given before prosecutions are launched;

(2) That the Guild treat the revision of the Poisons Acts and D.D. Regulations as a matter of extreme importance and urgency for approach to the Pharmacy Board;

(3) That ethical preparations, especially dangerous drugs, be labelled clearly with the B.P. name or names mentioned in the D.D. Regulations with reference to drugs involved, e.g., Methadon.

F.T. Laboratories, Glen Iris.—Mr. Keith submitted a letter from F.T. Laboratories, advising that Christy Products (Aust.) Ltd. had gone out of business and that F.T. Laboratories had taken over Permasette Wave Set Lotion. This product will in future be available to retailers through wholesale channels. The wholesale price is 25/- dozen; retail, 3/9 each. The line was approved.

Councillors Congratulated.—Mr. Iliffe moved, Mr. Adams seconded: "That a letter of congratulation be forwarded to Messrs. McDougall and Lumley on their election to the Chelsea Council, and Mr. Samuel to the Mordialloc Council."—Carried.

The meeting closed at 11.15 p.m.

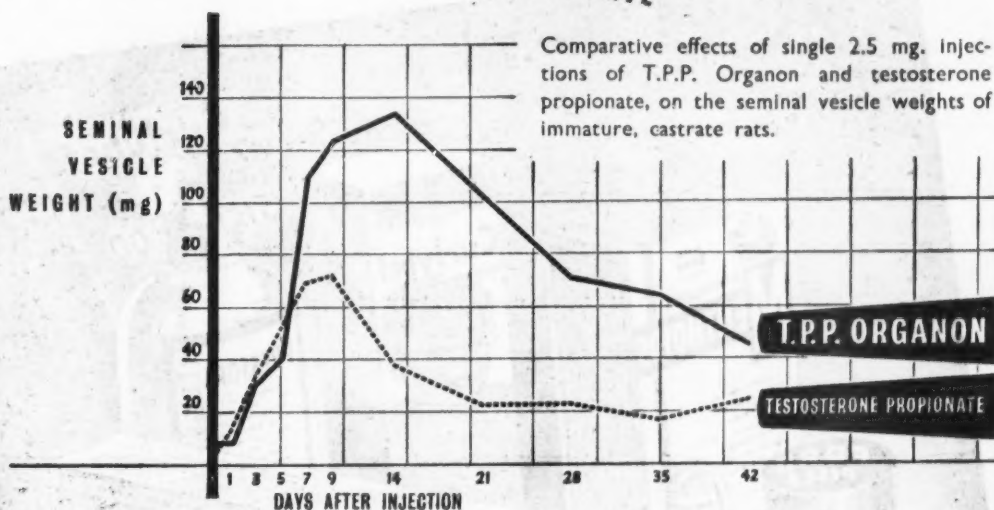
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QUEENSLAND

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

Mr. E. J. Masterson has returned to Gladstone after spending a vacation in Brisbane. **Mr. C. G. Byrne** was acting as locum during Mr. Masterson's absence.

Mr. R. G. Gardner (Rutter's Pharmacy) has returned to Brisbane after a holiday spent on the South Coast.

Obituary.—The friends of **Mr. Robert Fleming** will regret to learn of his death at Bundaberg on September 12. Mr. Fleming had been the dispenser at the Bundaberg Hospital for a number of years.

Congratulations to **Mr. Doug. Cadden**, of Annerley, who is regarded as the "Dead-eye Dick" of Queensland rifle shooting for 1953. Mr. Cadden proved himself the State's best marksman by winning the grand aggregate at the recent Queen's Shoot. He has represented the State in the last two Australian championships in Perth and Adelaide.

Mr. G. Haskins has purchased the pharmacy at Yeppoon, conducted for several years by Mr. V. J. Byriel.

Mr. V. H. Laws is opening a pharmacy at Pacific Highway, Surfers' Paradise.

NEW COUNCILLOR FOR PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

Mrs. Lynette Carlson, of Mt. Gravatt, has been nominated to fill a vacancy on the Council of the Society caused by the retirement of Miss Everett. Miss Chalmers and Mrs. Carlson will be the women's representatives on the Council of the Society.

Mrs. Carlson, who was educated at the Gympie High School, served two years' apprenticeship with Miss Gwladys Elliot, of Gympie, and one year with Mr. S. E. Cox. Mrs. Carlson qualified in 1948 and undertook relieving work for a year. Since 1950 she has been managing Mr. Ferguson's branch pharmacy at Mt. Gravatt.

We congratulate Mrs. Carlson on her appointment to the Council and trust that her association with the Council will be both pleasurable and profitable.

GUILD OFFICE-BEARERS.

At the State Branch committee meeting held on September 3, the Returning Officer, Mr. J. J. Delahunty, reported that he had received nominations in favour of the following:

President: Mr. W. A. Lenehan

Vice-president: Mr. C. A. Nichol

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C. W. Noble

and he declared them duly elected as executive officers of the Queensland Branch for the ensuing year.

Members of the committee for the ensuing year include: Messrs. A. Bell, A. B. Chater, J. J. Delahunty, A. W. Eberhardt, L. W. Huxham, L. Hall, W. E. Martin, A. N. C. Munro, G. Nolan and F. H. Phillips.

QUEENSLAND CHEMISTS' GOLF CLUB.

Golf at the Redland Bay Course was enjoyed by members of the Chemists' Golf Club on September 13, when 38 players faced the handicapper and six associates also entered their competition. The results were:

Individual Stableford.—The competition resulted in a tie between Jack Richardson and Bill Stanley, with Ron Caffyn next best. As these three members have won trophies previously, without revision of handicap, they were automatically eliminated. The prize then went to Chum Jackson, who finished with the next best score.

Stableford, 4-Ball.—First, Bill Stanley and John Lehmhase; second (three ties), Brian O'Connell, Jack Wheeler and Eric Gee. On a draw from the hat, Jack Wheeler proved successful.

Lucky Number Contest.—This event proved interesting, and was won by C. (Chic) Chichero.

Associate Competition Stableford.—Miss June Mary Beiers returned a good card, to win this competition.

These days are becoming more popular, and it was noticed that a number of visitors attended the day's outing.

CHEMISTS' BOWLING NOTES.

The monthly mid-week match was played at Coorparoo on September 2 and resulted in a win for the home club. The scores were:

	Coorparoo
Atkins, Ward, Riddell, Colledge	18 30
Ockelford, Rayment, Allison, Fitzsimmons	13 34
Dowd, Shirras, Coffey, Belford	24 27
	55 91

An all day pairs competition was enjoyed on the Booroodabin green on September 13, when the following points were scored:

Leads—	6 points plus 20
Allison	6 " " 10
Money	4 " " 13
Ward	4 " " 9
Lenehan	4 " " 6
Ockelford	4 " " 6
Skips—	
Pumpfrey	6 " " 9
Young	6 " " 5
Lewis	4 " " 15
Belford	4 " " 8
Monahan	4 " " 8

Ashgrove is the next club to be visited for the mid-week match on October 7 and an all-day's game will be played at Redcliffe on October 11.

GUILD ANNUAL MEETING.

Record Attendance.

The 25th annual meeting of the Guild was held in the Lord Mayor's Room, City Hall, Brisbane, on August 27, when the guest speakers were the Federal President, Mr. Eric Scott, and the Federal Merchandising Manager, Mr. R. G. Ross.

It was very encouraging for the executive officers and the guest speakers to see such a large attendance. Over a hundred attended, thus making the meeting one of the largest attended annual meetings on record.

The city and suburbs were well represented and it was pleasing to see members from the following country areas also in attendance: Ipswich, Lowood, Beenleigh, Kingaroy, Gladstone, Caloundra, Maleny, Cleveland, Southport, Redcliffe, Scarborough, Woody Point.

The President, Mr. W. A. Lenehan, extended a welcome to those present, especially the country members, and also to Mr. C. C. Slater, an English chemist, who had recently purchased a pharmacy and was now a member of the Guild.

Mr. Lenehan also extended a special welcome to the guest speakers, who had kindly travelled from Melbourne to attend and address the meeting.

The business part of the meeting was dealt with as speedily as possible, after which Mr. Lenehan called on the Federal President, Mr. Eric Scott, to address the meeting.

Mr. Scott Addresses Meeting—Federal Council Stand Supported.

In rising to speak, a great ovation was given Mr. Scott, who said he was very happy to visit Queensland for the occasion of the annual meeting. He thanked the President for the welcome and said he would

QUEENSLAND (Continued)

proceed immediately with what he had to say concerning the Pharmaceutical Benefits and Pensioner Medical Services.

After hearing Mr. Scott's speech and having heard his answers to various questions which were asked, the following motion proposed by Mr. Richardson and seconded by Mr. Palmer was unanimously carried:

"That this annual meeting of the Queensland Branch of the Guild expresses its resentment at the action of the Commonwealth Government in attempting to reduce the terms of the previous contract for Pensioner Medical Services, Repatriation and Pharmaceutical Benefit work, and pledges itself to stand firmly behind the Federal Executive in any action it may think fit to meet the position."

Mr. Scott thanked members for their loyal support, and he assured them that the Negotiating Committee would do all in its power to negotiate in the interests and for the benefit of the pharmacists of Australia.

The President then invited Mr. Ross to address the meeting on merchandising matters, at the conclusion of which questions were asked concerning merchandising problems.

Before the meeting concluded, the Vice-president, Mr. C. A. Nichol, expressed the thanks of the meeting to the President, Mr. Lenehan, for his capable chairmanship of the meeting and for his very able leadership as President of the Guild during the past year.

To Mr. Scott and Mr. Ross, Mr. Nichol expressed appreciation and thanks for their attendance and for the information they had imparted to the meeting.

The vote of thanks was carried by acclamation.

A happy conclusion to the annual meeting was the serving of supper in the Guild rooms.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland met at Drysdale's Chambers, Brisbane, on September 10, at 8 p.m.

Attendance.—Mr. R. S. F. Greig (President), Misses E. F. Chalmers, E. A. Everett; Messrs. V. Barnett, H. G. E. Sneyd, L. A. Stevens, R. V. S. Martin, E. J. McCaskie, A. B. Williams, and the Secretary.

A.P.F. Meeting.—Mr. Martin reported that the A.P.F. sub-committee had met on July 7. A copy of the report of that meeting was available for each member of the Council. A further meeting of the sub-committee was held on September 2 and the report of that meeting would be available shortly.

Correspondence.—To Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia, expressing the sympathy of this Council on the death of the President, Mr. J. D. Garrett.

To Mrs. Garrett, conveying the condolence of the Council on the death of her husband.—Letter of thanks received.

To Director-General of Health and Medical Services, enquiring if Bethal Tablets is a restricted preparation and can only be sold on a doctor's prescription.—Reply advising that Bethal Tablets, packed by R.H.U. Pills Pty. Ltd., are declared as containing Ephedrine Sulphate one-sixth grain in each tablet of approximately 7 grains and thus come within the scope of Schedule IV (Restricted Drugs) and can only be supplied by a chemist on a doctor's prescription.

To the Chief Inspector, Prevention of Cruelty, advising that this Society has received reports attributed as coming from the Prevention of Cruelty, wherein it

was stated that strychnine could be purchased from chemists. Pointing out that such a matter would appear to make the obtaining of strychnine a very easy matter. Bringing before notice the actual requirements and conditions applying to the sale of strychnine.—Reply pointing out that some chemists will not sell strychnine under any circumstances, but it would appear very desirable that a tightening up of the sale of such a poison would not be amiss. Requesting this Society to give consideration to the suggestion. After discussion, it was resolved that the Prevention of Cruelty be advised concerning sales of strychnine by persons other than chemists, and as far as pharmacists are concerned, this Council considers that the restrictions respecting strychnine are adequate.

From Pharmacy Board, Queensland, advising that no pharmacy student will be granted exemption from the Board's Intermediate or Final Examinations in any subject or subjects other than Final Botany. Also advising that from the Final Examinations in November, 1953, students failing in the Board's examinations will be given the percentages obtained by them in each of the subjects for which they sit.—Noted.

From Mr. C. M. Cato, expressing appreciation of the good wishes conveyed to him on the eve of his retirement from the Health Department. Mr. Greig reported that he had represented the Society at the function arranged in honour of Mr. Cato. An easy chair was presented to Mr. Cato on behalf of the organisations represented.

From a member, advising that he had been invited to address the local Junior Farmers and he has decided to speak on the medical prescription; what it is, how it is formed, the meaning of the layout. Seeking information so that he can collate data for his talk. The Secretary reported that information had been made available.

Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies, forwarding copy of communication to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, advising that £100 (Aust.) is being forwarded, to be added to the funds for the relief of victims of floods which occurred this year.

Australian and New Zealand Association for the advancement of Science, advising that Section "O" will be held at Canberra from January 13 to 20, 1954.

Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria, forwarding copies of report of meeting of the Medico-Pharmaceutical Liaison Committee. Also copies of Victorian Liaison Committee meeting report.—Noted.

Pharmaceutical Public Relations Secretariat, sending copy of Bulletin dated July 1 and background to chemists' case summarised, dated September 3.

Copies of alterations to the Pharmacy Act and Poisons Regulations received from the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Resolved that these be passed on to the Poisons Sub-committee for their perusal.

Standards Association of Australia, forwarding draft Australian standard specification for half-pint measures and measuring spoons.

New Members Elected.

Full Members.—Messrs. A. H. Waterworth, B. J. Phillips, W. H. C. Sadlier, C. C. Slater, E. M. Jones and H. D. Waples.

Associates.—Messrs. P. M. Pierce, G. G. Duffield and R. A. O'Toole.

Reports on recent issues of the "A.J.P." and "The Pharmaceutical Journal" were submitted by Mr. Sneyd and Mr. Stevens respectively.

Mr. Greig, in thanking Mr. Stevens for his report, said he thought it would be fitting if a letter of congratulation was sent to Sir Hugh Linstead, Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, on the knighthood bestowed on him.

Mr. Greig also mentioned that Mr. Meldrum had now retired from the Council and suggested that a letter



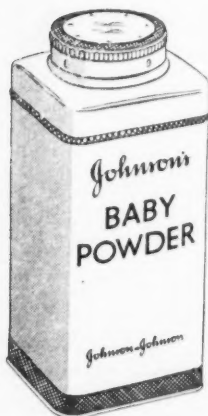
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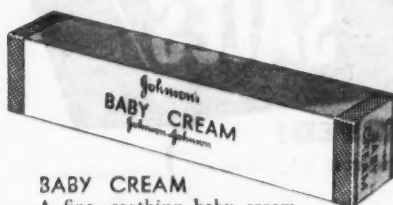
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QUEENSLAND (Continued)

be sent to him, conveying the Council's good wishes for a well-earned rest.

The Secretary was requested to forward letters on behalf of the Council to Sir Hugh Linstead and Mr. Meldrum.

"Pharmacy International."—Mr. Williams reported on interesting items in this journal.

Pharmacy Board report was presented by Mr. Martin, who referred to matters which had recently engaged the attention of the Board.

Pharmaceutical Association Conference.—Mr. Greig said a copy of his report on the Conference was available for each member of the Council. He asked if members would be good enough to peruse the report so that further discussion concerning the various resolutions could be undertaken at a subsequent meeting of the Council.

Annual Meeting.—Mr. Greig said arrangements had been made to hold the annual meeting on September 22. Some thought had been given to the suggestion that guest speakers be invited to address the annual meeting, but he thought the time was rather short to make any arrangements for this year. This would be a suggestion to keep in mind for next year.

Film Evening.—Mr. Greig reported that F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd. had a film on Terramycin available for a few days in Brisbane toward the end of the month. The Society had been fortunate in securing the Shell Theatre for the evening of September 29.

Mr. Martin advised that the Discussion Group had been able to secure a film on Sterile Dispensing from the Pharmacy Department of the University of Adelaide, and he wondered if this film, or portion of it, could be shown on the same night. After discussion, it was resolved that it be left in the hands of Mr. Greig and Mr. Martin to see if this could be arranged.

Retirement of Miss Everett.—Mr. Greig mentioned that Miss Everett had decided not to continue as a member of the Council, and consequently this would be the last Council meeting Miss Everett would be attending as a member of the Council. Mr. Greig said, on behalf of the Council and himself, he would like to say "thank you" to Miss Everett for her interest in the activities of the Council, and for her work, particularly from the women pharmacists' angle. Mr. Greig extended good wishes to Miss Everett for the future.

Mr. Martin said he would like to add a note of regret at Miss Everett's retirement. For many years Miss Everett has been along, helping with her advice, and he knew that her presence would be missed from the Council.

Mr. Barnett said he would like to add a word of regret also. Miss Everett had served this Council well. She had the distinction of being one of the first women members of the Society to serve on the Council, and as such she had carried out most capably the women's representation on the Council. Mr. Barnett said women pharmacists had on many occasions, particularly through the war years, been the salvation of pharmacy and they had contributed a great deal towards the promotion of the profession.

In reply, Miss Everett thanked the speakers for their kind remarks, and said she had very happy memories of her association with the Council. Although she would not be attending future meetings, she would always watch with interest the activities of the Council. Mrs. Carlson would be taking her place on the Council and she felt that she would be a very worthy representative. Miss Everett conveyed her good wishes to the Council in its future activities.

The meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.

THE GUILD

S.B.C.
Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the Queensland Branch of the Guild met at Drysdale's Chambers, Brisbane, on September 3, at 8 p.m.

Attendance.—Messrs. W. A. Lenehan (President), C. A. Nichol, W. E. Martin, A. B. Chater, A. W. Eberhardt, F. H. Phillips, L. Hall, A. Bell, G. Nolan, L. W. Huxham, C. W. Noble, J. J. Delahunty and the State Secretary.

Election of Officers.—As this was the first meeting of the committee since the annual meeting, the President asked the Returning Officer to present his report concerning nominations for the executive positions for the ensuing year.

Mr. Delahunty, as Returning Officer, reported that he had received nominations, correctly signed, in favour of the following:

President: Mr. W. A. Lenehan
Vice-president: Mr. C. A. Nichol
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C. W. Noble

and he declared them duly elected as the executive officers of this Branch for the ensuing year.—Received.

Federal Delegate.—Mr. W. E. Martin was appointed Queensland representative to the Federal Council.

Second Delegate.—Resolved that the President (or, if he is not available, the Vice-president) be the second delegate to the Federal Council.

Nominee Shareholders to Gilseal Company.—Resolved that Messrs. J. J. Delahunty and A. W. Eberhardt be the Guild's nominees to meetings of Gilseal Company.

Appointment of Sub-committees.—The President moved that the personnel of the sub-committee remain as for the previous year. Seconded by Mr. Nichol. Carried.

Report re Retail Price List.—Mr. Chater reported that when visiting the Sydney Conference, he had handed the prices for the new patent list to Mr. Coad, who attended to pricing matters on behalf of the New South Wales Branch. Mr. Coad and other members of the pricing committee in New South Wales were quite happy with the way the local committee had set out the new list, and they were generally in agreement with the suggestions put forth. Western Australia, which also secures the list, had some suggestions for further improvement, too, and the New South Wales members said they hoped to be able to include the suggestions as soon as possible because they realised that their own members would also benefit.

A further suggestion was that the household list should also be included. The New South Wales sub-committee was hopeful of bringing out the list early in October, but with the conference and the death of Mr. Little they had had some setbacks, but they would do their best to produce the list as early as possible.

Mr. Chater reported that he had also called on Mr. Burnet, who is in charge of the Guild's pricing bureau for Repatriation dispensing. Mr. Burnet was very happy with the returns from Queensland.

Merchandising Matters.—Mr. Lenehan reported that the following matters had been brought before Mr. Ross' notice when he visited Brisbane during the past week: Odour from "Gilseal" Stripper; Colour cards for "Gilseal" Dyes; Colgate's parcels; Inadequate margin on "Australaid" batteries.

Medical Benefits.—The Secretary reported that she had been in communication with Mr. Allison, of the Medical Benefits Fund, enquiring if it would be possible for a brochure to be prepared for chemist-agents to give to customers, setting out the full advantages of membership of the Medical Benefits Fund. The Secretary advised that when she telephoned Mr. Allison he told her that he was at that time preparing a brochure which would be handed to the printer the following day. This should be available for distribution.

QUEENSLAND (Continued)

Members drew attention to the fact that reminders are being sent to subscribers concerning renewal of payments, but, unfortunately, on such reminders no mention is made of making such payment to the local chemist-agent. It was also suggested that all advertisements should include the words "pay your subscription to your local chemist." It was recommended that these points also be brought before the notice of the manager of the Fund.

Dispensing Fees.—Mr. Lenehan said since last meeting the Government had decontrolled drug prices and also dispensing fees. He felt certain that the excellent applications prepared and submitted on our behalf to the Prices Commissioner by G. F. Offner & Company had a large bearing on decontrol being granted.

Now that the price of drugs had been lifted from control, Mr. Huxham said he had been in touch with the wholesalers to see if drug prices could be made available so that he could proceed with the compilation of the new household packed goods list. The wholesalers said they would be able to furnish the new prices during the coming week.

Mr. Chater said he would like members of the committee to give consideration to having these household prices printed in the back of the Patent List. Room would be available and he thought it would be an advantage to have the prices included therein, rather than have another small book to find and look up when required.

Mr. Noble moved that the household prices be printed in the back of the retail price list. Seconded by Mr. Phillips.—Carried.

Mr. Nichol said controls having been lifted as far as fees and drug and ethical prices were concerned, he moved that a new tablet list, complete with A.P.F. and liquid ethical preparations, be printed and supplied free of charge to members and that the Pricing Subcommittee be empowered to proceed with the preparation and printing of such list. Seconded by Mr. Eberhardt.—Carried.

New Members Elected.—Mr. C. C. Slater, Milton; Mr. W. J. Sabine, Roma, and Mr. V. H. Laws, Surfers' Paradise.

Re-admission.—Mrs. A. M. Tasker, Fortitude Valley.

Transfer of Membership from New South Wales.—Mr. G. J. Allen, Goondiwindi.

Branch Pharmacy.—Mr. K. A. Shewan, 90 Blackstone Road, Silkstone.

Correspondence.—The Secretary, Retailers' Association of Queensland, offering assistance of this association concerning shop assistant cases coming before the State Industrial Court. Advising that for the time being, this organisation is not prepared to avail itself of the services of the association.

To Mrs. J. Little, expressing the sincere sympathy of the President and members of this committee on the death of Mr. Little.

From Federal Merchandising Manager (1) Attaching copy of communication received from Potter & Moore advising that the policy of the company with regard to the establishment of new retail prices is not to immediately adjust downwards the retail prices of the products distributed by Potter & Moore, but to allow a reasonable time—three or four weeks—before any new prices should be notified to the trade and the consumer.

(2) Forwarding copy of communication received from the Managing Director of Colgate-Palmolive Pty. Ltd., stating that the company is at all times anxious to work in harmony with its many chemist friends, and Colgates knew that price-cutting was inimical to its objectives. Stating the policy of Colgates continues to be one of maintenance of prices and it would do all within its power to ensure that its consumer prices remained at a level which would protect the interests of retailers.

Mr. Delahunty reported that he had discussed this matter with the Divisional Manager of the company, Mr. Bradford. Mr. Delahunty said he had stated that the Guild would like Colgate's views on the matter and an assurance that price-cutting would be very strongly discouraged throughout the grocery trade. Mr. Bradford had subsequently been in touch with the General Manager, who had advised that it was the company's desire to maintain a standard price and that every effort would be made to do so.

Mr. Lenehan said Mr. Delahunty had done a good job in bringing this matter before the notice of Colgates and in urging that every endeavour be made to have correct retail prices enforced.

(3) Re advertising for "Gilseal" dyes. Stating that the company advises that, in addition to the continuous advertising in "Idle Moments," it proposes showing slides on 70 picture theatres. The company is also in the process of issuing a new colour card to every chemist in Queensland. Advising that the colours for carpet dyes will also be included on this card.

Members said this was a step in the right direction but it was a pity there was not a colour card for hat dyes.

From Federal Secretary, advising that arrangements have now been made to make copies of the Dispensing Drug Tariff issued in August available to this Branch and that supplies will be air-freighted very shortly. The Secretary reported when the drug prices became decontrolled she notified the Federal Secretary, hence his advice concerning the new drug list.

From Pharmacy Board, advising that on July 23 the Board decided that until otherwise determined no pharmacy student shall be granted exemption from the Board's Intermediate or Final Examinations in any subject or subjects other than Final Botany. Any students who have been granted exemption from sitting for any subject in the Board's examinations prior to July 23 last may retain such exemption at the pleasure of the Board. From and including the Final Examination in November next, students failing in the Board's Intermediate or Final Examinations will be given the percentages obtained by them in each of the subjects for which they sit.

Report on Federal Council Meeting.—Mr. Lenehan reported that the Guild Federal Council had been called together three times during the Pharmaceutical Association meeting in Sydney. He outlined various phases of the negotiations with the Government which were discussed by the Federal Council. At his request, the Federal delegate, Mr. Martin, read copies of letters which had passed between Sir Earle Page and the Federal President, Mr. Scott.

Mr. Lenehan said the negotiations had now reached a political level, and so that the Federal President would be sure of the strength and loyalty of the members, a circular letter had been sent to everyone, asking them to append their signature to the tear-off section expressing loyalty to the Negotiating Committee.

Mr. Martin reported that, apparently as a result of Mr. Scott's interview with Mr. Townley on August 31, he had received a telegram enquiring if this State was in favour of a plebiscite being taken among members concerning matters as they now stood. Mr. Martin advised that, after consultation with the President, he had replied stating that Queensland favoured the plebiscite.

Mr. Lenehan reported on other matters which had come before the Federal Council, and he also briefly reported on remits discussed at the Pharmaceutical Association Conference.

Mr. Chater, as this State's Pricing Officer, enumerated the matters which had engaged the attention of the Pricing Officer's conference.

After discussion, Mr. Martin moved, Mr. Phillips seconded, that the reports be received.—Carried.

The meeting closed at 11.30 p.m.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State
News

Messrs. Ryder, Tulloch and Groscombe each opened his own pharmacy during September.

Mr. J. Daly has left Pt. Augusta and opened a new pharmacy at Christie's Beach.

Mr. K. Hanna proposes to open a pharmacy in Windsor Gardens.

Mr. A. Ramsey relieved Mr. J. Stain, of St. Morris, for a week in September.

Messrs. H. E. Martin and J. C. Measday are now controlling the pharmacies at Rosewater as a partnership.

Mr. B. Scrivener spent the month of September with Mr. R. Grist, of Largs Bay.

Mr. R. Pak-Poy has been appointed manager of the Clare Pharmacy of Mr. F. Streicher, and the proprietor has moved to Pt. Augusta.

Mr. R. Holder spent August with Mr. D. Humble, of Payneham, and the first fortnight in September with Mr. M. Brady, of Allenby Gardens.

Miss A. Dent managed Prospect F.S.M.A. on behalf of Mr. J. Pickengand and the branch at Reade Park for Mr. D. Goscombe in recent weeks.

Mr. D. Ardell managed the Kilkenny and Exeter branches of Friendly Society Dispensaries during August.

During August **Mr. R. Tulloch** managed Carrig's Pharmacy, Rundle St., for Mr. M. Connell, and also the pharmacy owned by Mr. C. Huxtable.

Mr. B. Richards spent a fortnight in August at Burden Ltd., King William St., Adelaide, under engagement by Mr. J. Ware.

Mr. H. Philp was in charge of Goodwood Pharmacy during the absence of the proprietor, Mr. P. K. Porter, on holidays; similarly, **Mr. D. Warren** acted for Mr. E. Hogben, of Woodville, for a like period.

Mr. C. Austin has joined the register of pharmaceutical chemists under reciprocal agreement to assist Mr. H. Flaherty of Plympton, Mr. J. Wendle of Walkerville, and Mrs. Maloney of Kingswood.

Mrs. Y. Phillips left Rickards Pharmacy, Medindie, to spend a few weeks with Carrig Ltd., Woodville, prior to opening her own pharmacy in Royston Park. Mr. S. Jewell is now in charge of Rickards Pharmacy.

During **Mr. H. G. Collyer's** (Brighton) absence in attending The Pharmaceutical Association meetings in Sydney in August, **Mr. L. Norman** acted as reliever; similarly, **Mr. E. Kay** acted as locum for **Mr. K. Scott**, of Hilton.

Mr. J. Teakle visited Riverton (Mr. M. Eckersley); Quorn (Mr. H. B. Smith); Peterborough (Mr. R. Veitch); Penola (Mr. E. Williams); during August and September, and will spend most of October with Mr. A. W. Clark, of St. Peters.

Mr. P. Wurm was in charge of the pharmacy conducted by Mr. Walter C. Cotterell in St. Peters during his absence to act as President of The Pharmaceutical Association of Australia at the Conference in Sydney during August.

Mr. L. Lever spent the first fortnight of September in Port Pirie, managing the pharmacy conducted by the late E. J. Frances. He has also been at Kingswood pharmacy prior to taking over the managership of Burden Ltd., Hindley St., after the resignation of Mr. K. Pawson to open his own pharmacy in Morphettville.

Mr. P. Warnecke assisted **Mr. D. Penhall** at Albert Park during the absence of Mr. K. S. Porter, President of The Pharmacy Board, during his attendance at the Sydney Conference. In September Mr. Warnecke acted as locum for Mr. Plotz, of Runge's Pharmacy, and Mr. C. Ward, of Richmond.

PHARMACY BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Triennial Election of Seven Members

I give notice that it is my intention to proceed on Monday, 14th day of December, 1953, to hold an Election of seven members of the above Board.

Nominations on the prescribed form are to be lodged or delivered by post by four o'clock in the afternoon on Monday, 16th November, 1953, at the office of the Registrar, Commercial Bank Chambers, 25 King William Street, Adelaide, where (in the event of an election being held) voting papers are to be transmitted or left on or before 1 p.m. on 14th December, 1953.

J. U. MAXWELL,
Returning Officer.

Adelaide,
30th September, 1953.

This headline has been read many million times
in the last 12 months.

"Look, Mum!
I can walk again!"



You've seen these advertisements in the "Women's Weekly," "Woman's Day and Home" and "New Idea," and you've seen your own sales of Roboleine increasing month by month.

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In 12 oz. and 36 oz. jars

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

The President of The Pharmaceutical Society of S.A., **Mr. A. C. Holloway**, of Park Terrace, Wayville, was able to attend the meetings of The Pharmaceutical Association, in Sydney, during August, by reason of the courtesy of Mr. T. G. Mitchell, who agreed to take charge of the pharmacy in the emergency which took place at that time.

ENGAGEMENTS.

The engagement was announced on September 14, of Fay, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Orr, of North Unley, to Bruce, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hayter, of Fullarton.

MARRIAGES.

The marriage of Desley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Casbolt, of Toorak Gardens, to Robert, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Veitch, of Wallaroo, was solemnised at Rostrevor College Chapel at an evening ceremony, which was followed by a reception at Princes, Anzac Highway, attended by about 80 guests. After an inter-State motoring honeymoon, Mr. and Mrs. Veitch will make their home at Peterborough.

To the skirl of two pipers, Glenys, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Murray, of Prospect, was married at St. Cuthbert's Church to John, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Pickering, of Berri. Denys was attended by three bridesmaids and a flower girl, while the bridegroom's brother, Kevin, was best man. The reception after the ceremony was held in the B.T.M. Hall, North Adelaide.

The wedding of Carlien, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Foster, of Nailsworth, to Clyde, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Ward, of Cowandilla, was celebrated at St. Cuthbert's Church, Prospect, during the month. Mr. and Mrs. Ward will spend their three weeks' honeymoon motoring to Sydney via Canberra, and upon their return will take up residence at their home in Tennyson.

BIRTHS.

Simcock (nee Butterfield). On August 21 at Memorial Hospital, to Bess and Gerald—a son (Neil Percival).

Gryst. On August 26 at Calvary, to Mr. and Mrs. R. Gryst—a son.

CHEMISTS' GOLF DAY

The annual competition for the Bickford Golf Cup was played in ideal conditions at the Glenelg Golf Club on September 16.

From a large field of chemists who entered, Mr. R. K. Michael was the ultimate winner.

Mr. Fuller, Managing Director of A. M. Bickford & Sons Ltd., presented the Bickford Golf Cup to Mr. Michael, and congratulated him on his success.

RETAIL PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS BOARD.

Pharmacy Student Gets Post.

A pharmacy student was selected in the State Industrial Court recently for appointment to the Retail Pharmaceutical Chemists' Wages Board in preference to a union secretary.

In selecting Dale Elton Weedman, of Stanley Street, Erindale, the President, Mr. Pellaw, said that apprentices constituted a substantial proportion of employees and that, such being the case, the opinions and desires of employees directly concerned should not be ignored.

Dale Weedman's nomination had been opposed by the Miscellaneous Workers' Union, whose secretary (Mr. E. Bannister) had been nominated as an employees' representative, although not an actual employee.

Employers' representatives on the Board, all of whom are chemists, are Messrs. D. Finlayson, F. M. Moore and J. C. White. Their selection as representatives was not contested.

CALOMEL TEETHING POWDER WARNING.

A warning to parents that teething powders containing calomel had been banned by the Executive Council was made by an Adelaide Children's Hospital spokesman. He said about 15 babies had been admitted in the past year with a condition presumed to be mercury poisoning. Two were still under treatment after being severely ill.

The continued use of calomel teething powders is suspected to be the source of poisoning, and is blamed by some American authorities to be the causative factor in cases of so-called "pink disease." This theory, however, is not generally held and has failed to satisfy English and Australian medical authorities.

BREACH OF S.A. PHARMACY ACT.

A fine of £5, with £2/12/- costs, was imposed on Ross Percival Clancy, of Pulteney Street, Adelaide, for a breach of the Pharmacy Act.

Mr. C. C. Crump appeared for Clancy, who admitted that between about June 4 and 26 he had his pharmacy open while not under the direction of a registered chemist.

Mr. C. A. L. Abbott, prosecuting, said that an apprentice had been left in charge of the shop.

Mr. Crump said that Clancy had only been absent on business for a short period. It was an offence for a chemist to be absent for a few minutes without leaving a qualified person in charge.

POISONING CASES.

Swallowed Iodine.—Paul Shallow, aged 3 years, of Blair Athol, was admitted to Adelaide Children's Hospital after swallowing iodine. His condition is not serious.

Kerosene.—David Marshall, 21 months, was admitted to Adelaide Children's Hospital after having drunk kerosene at his home.

False Poison Story.—A taxi-driver, Reginald Clifford Fielke, after drinking hydrochloric acid, falsely told police that his wife and a man friend had tried to murder him. He was admitted to Royal Adelaide Hospital and treated for a badly burned throat and stomach. Fielke was later found guilty of making a false report to the police and was fined £15 and ordered to pay costs amounting to £4/14/-.

S.A. DENTAL BOARD'S APPEAL DISMISSED.

The Dental Board's appeal against the dismissal of its prosecution of a newspaper editor for his refusal to disclose the source of a photograph was dismissed by the Full Court on August 31.

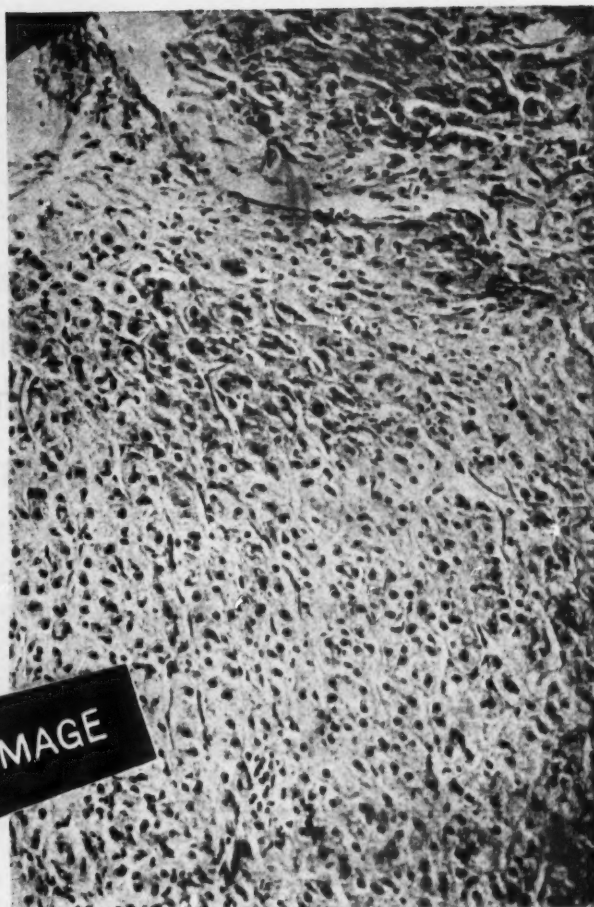
The Registrar of the Board (Mr. James Maxwell Syme) had appealed against the dismissal of a charge against D. G. McFarling, editor of the "Advertiser." The charge was that he had refused to answer a question when summoned to attend before the Board on February 24 and had refused to disclose the source from which a photograph of Dr. M. W. Evans had been obtained. The magistrate held that the question: "Did Dr. Evans give you that photograph?" was not a lawful question within the meaning of Section 56 of the Dentist's Act, under which the charge was brought.

The Chief Justice said that a document was served on Mr. McFarling but there was no evidence of any direction or resolution of the Board relating to the summons or the purpose of the examination. The authority given by Section 56 was in derogation of the common law right and liberty of the subject. Mr. McFarling was not "called or examined as a witness," but was called before the Board for the purpose of being questioned about matters as to which he could hardly be expected to have any personal knowledge, and upon which he was, presumably, not qualified to give evidence.

"The power to interrogate in this way might, no doubt, be convenient in many cases," His Honour



LIVER BIOPSY BEFORE TREATMENT



LIVER BIOPSY 53 DAYS AFTER TREATMENT

FOR LIVER DAMAGE

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liver regeneration

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1. Localio, S.A.; Gillette, L., and Hinton J. W.: Surg., Gynec. & Obst. 89:69 (July) 1949.



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SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

said, "but I cannot find anything in the statute which justifies the Board in its claim to do what the police are not authorised to do in the investigation of serious offences. The power to summon and examine witnesses on oath is given for the purpose of 'making an enquiry'. It is not given for the purpose of investigating as the Board was investigating in this case." The Board's object was to obtain information and, no doubt, to use any obtained, that suggested a breach of professional conduct by Dr. Evans, for a further investigation, or as the foundation of a charge against him.

Mr. Justice Ligertwood said that in acting under the Section the Board must proceed judicially. The main consideration was that the dentist concerned must be given the opportunity of being heard in his own defence.

Here there was no charge. The Board was merely investigating a suspicion that a dentist had been guilty of unprofessional conduct.

It was incumbent, His Honour said, upon the Dental Board, when asserting a right to compel answers generally on all matters concerning registered dentists, to point to some clear enactment supporting such a right.

NEW REGULATIONS UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

(Published in the South Australian Government Gazette, August 20, 1953.)

Regulations made under the Food and Drugs Act, 1908-1950.

The Regulations made under the Food and Drugs Act, 1908-1950, and the Consolidation of Regulations Act, 1937, on the 2nd day of April, 1953, and published in the Government Gazette on the 7th day of April, 1953, at page 757, are hereby varied as follows:—

By inserting after paragraph 5 of Regulation 62 the following new paragraph:—

5a. Desiccated Coconut.

(a) Desiccated coconut is the dried and shredded kernel of the coconut (*Cocos nucifera* L.). It shall be sound and wholesome and with or without permitted colouring. It shall be free from any pathogenic organisms.

(b) No person shall sell, or attempt to sell, keep for sale, or expose for sale or permit or cause to be sold, kept for sale, or exposed for sale, or have in his possession, custody, or control, with intent to sell, or use, or permit or cause to be used in the manufacture or preparation for sale of any article of food, any desiccated coconut which does not comply with subparagraph (a) of this regulation. Any person who has in his possession for sale any desiccated coconut which does not comply with paragraph (a) of this regulation shall destroy same by burning unless it is rendered wholesome to the satisfaction of the Central Board of Health.

(c) No person shall sell, or attempt to sell, keep for sale, or expose for sale or permit or cause to be sold, kept for sale, or exposed for sale, or have in his possession, custody, or control, with intent to sell, or use, or permit or cause to be used in the manufacture or preparation for sale of any article of food, desiccated coconut known under the brand of "Tropic Snow," and any person who has in his possession any such desiccated coconut for sale or intended for sale in any form shall destroy same by burning: Provided that this shall not apply if the desiccated coconut has been rendered wholesome to the satisfaction of the Central Board of Health.

Antibiotics in Stock Foods.

3. Regulation 86 is amended as follows:—

(i) By deleting the full stop immediately after the word "regulations" in clause (b) of subpara-

graph (i) of paragraph 4 of the said regulation and substituting in lieu thereof the following:—
"; or."

(ii) By inserting after clause (b) of subparagraph (i) of paragraph 4 of the said regulation the following new clause.

"(c) a manufacturer of stock foods for use in the production of stock foods."

(iii) By inserting after subparagraph (ii) of paragraph 4 of the said regulation the following new subparagraph:—

"(iii) A sale by any person of a stock food which contains an antibiotic substance, or a sale by any person of a preparation which contains an antibiotic substance and which preparation is intended for use as a stock food supplement, provided that no label, advertisement or statement (whether oral or written) relating to such stock food or preparation shall contain any representation or claim that such stock food or preparation will prevent, cure, mitigate or treat any disease."

Mercurous Chloride in Teething Powders.

4. Regulation 87 is amended by inserting after paragraph 9 the following new paragraph:—

"10. No person shall sell, expose for sale or have in his possession for sale any medicine containing the drug mercurous chloride if any label or advertisement relating to such medicine contains any statement or claim which directly or by implication indicates or suggests that such medicine is suitable to be administered to children as a laxative, or as a soothing preparation or as a medicine for use during and after the teething period."

5. Regulation 99 is amended by deleting the words: "Thallium salts for vermin destruction" in the last line of the list under the heading "Class A" of Part II of the Poison List.

Medicine Seller's Licences—New Provisions.

6. Regulation 101 is amended by deleting paragraph (1) thereof and inserting in lieu thereof the following paragraph:—

"(1) Medicine Seller's Permit.

(i) A medicine seller's permit may be issued by the board to any person holding a Listed Seller's Licence for Part II poisons in respect of premises situated—

(a) four miles or more from the nearest authorised seller of poisons, or

(b) within four miles of the nearest authorised seller of poisons if the premises of such authorised seller of poisons are not open for business during at least three hours on each week day (Saturdays and public holidays excepted).

(ii) A medicine seller's permit shall allow the licensee to sell at the premises in respect of which the permit applies in original containers as received from the manufacturer or wholesaler Part I. Poisons except dangerous drugs and substances specified in the Third Schedule to this Part of these regulations. Provided that such permit shall not allow the licensee to dispense or compound any drug, poison, or medicine.

(iii) A medicine seller's permit shall cease to have effect if an authorised seller of poisons has registered premises within four miles of the premises in respect of which the medicine seller's permit applies and if the board is satisfied that such authorised seller of poisons for the space of three months after registering such premises has kept open such premises for business during at least three hours on each week day (Saturdays and public holidays excepted).

(iv) The fee for a medicine seller's permit shall be five shillings (5/-) for each year or part of a

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

year. There shall be an additional fee of two shillings and sixpence for each year or part of a year payable in respect of such premises additional to the chief or first premises in respect of which the permit was issued."

Thallium and Compounds of Thallium.

7. Regulation 106 is amended by deleting from paragraph 1 the words "salts of thallium" in the second line thereof.

8. The following new heading and regulation is inserted immediately after Regulation 129.

"129a. Sale of Thallium Compound."

The following additional requirements shall apply to the sale of salts of thallium.

"1. The board in its discretion may grant upon such conditions as it may deem necessary a permit to purchase salts of thallium to a person engaged in any profession, trade, occupation, or calling in which profession, trade, occupation, or calling salts of thallium are used for any manufacturing or scientific purpose, or for any trade process but not for resale or for any illegal purpose. No person shall sell salts of thallium except to a person who is the holder of such a permit.

2. No person shall buy salts of thallium unless and until he has given the number and particulars of his permit to the person from whom he is about to purchase, and if so required by the latter shall produce to him the permit for inspection.

3. The fee for the permit referred to in the preceding paragraphs shall be 5/-."

9. Part II. of the second schedule of Part V. of these regulations is amended by inserting immediately above the words "Phenols" in the first column, the words "Para-amino-benzoic acid, esters of; their salts" and opposite thereto in the second column the words "Stock foods which contain an antibiotic substance or any preparation which contains an antibiotic substance and which is intended for use as a stock food supplement, provided that such stock food or preparation is not represented as being for use in the prevention, cure, mitigation, or treatment of any disease."

10. The fourth schedule to Part V. of the regulations is amended by deleting therefrom the words "Thallium Salts" in the first column and immediately opposite in the second column the words "Preparations for the destruction of vermin containing not more than 0.2 per cent. of a thallium salt."

11. The amendments made by these regulations shall come into operation as follows:—

- (a) The amendments made by regulations 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 shall come into operation upon the making of these regulations.
- (b) The amendment made by regulation 2 shall come into operation immediately upon the expiration of twelve months after the making of these regulations.

FOOD POISONING

An address delivered at the Annual General Meeting of members of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia, on August 25, 1953, by Dr. J. E. McCartney, Head of the Bacteriological section of the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science of South Australia.

From time to time we read in the newspapers that there has been an outbreak of food poisoning, that a group of people has been taken ill after consuming a meal, that some have been taken to hospital, and perhaps one or more have died. But we do not hear so much about the occasional upset after eating food that occurs in homes or small communities such as boarding houses, hostels, or babies' homes. Food poisoning is a broad term denoting illnesses following the eating of food: it may be due to many agents which can be classified as (a) physical, such as coarse food or solid particles which irritate mechanically the intestinal

mucous membrane; (b) chemical, such as follows the ingestion of small amounts of copper, arsenic, lead or zinc salts usually derived from the containers used during cooking, storage, or distribution; and (c) biological, which includes not only poisoning from bacteria, but also ill effects caused by poisonous plants such as deadly nightshade, fox-glove, henbane, and toadstools such as "Death Cap" and fly-agaric which have been eaten in mistake for mushrooms.

Of all these causes the commonest and most important are various bacteria, and it is emphasised here at the beginning that many of the cases of food poisoning could have been avoided since they are due to carelessness, ignorance, and want of cleanliness. Although some foods, such as dried eggs, sausages or meat may be delivered already infected with food poisoning organisms, the majority of cases are due to contamination of the food after it has been received. Seventy-two per cent. of all outbreaks of food poisoning come from "made-up" or manipulated products. It was originally thought that food poisoning was due to chemical substances termed "ptomaines," which were produced when meat underwent putrefaction. Outbreaks of food poisoning have been and sometimes still are referred to as "ptomaine poisoning," but this expression is incorrect, as it is bacteria and their toxins which are responsible.

We will therefore concentrate on the bacterial causes of food poisoning. When these bacteria multiply they form soluble poisonous substances termed toxins, which disseminate into the surrounding medium. When certain types of food are contaminated with these organisms the bacteria rapidly reproduce and produce large amounts of toxin. The process of cooking may not be sufficient to destroy these toxins, so that when the food is eaten symptoms of gastro-intestinal irritation ensue, or in the case of botulism serious disturbances of the central nervous system.

Other types of bacteria do not produce their effects by a pre-formed soluble toxin, but grow in the alimentary tract, causing severe gastro-enteritis, due to inflammation of the mucous membrane with severe vomiting and diarrhoea. In these cases the symptoms do not come on immediately, but after an incubation period of several hours.

The main micro-organisms concerned in food poisoning are:

(a) *Staphylococcus*.

(b) The *Salmonella* group of intestinal bacteria.

(c) *Clostridium botulinum*—the cause of botulism.

(a) The *Staphylococcus* is a more frequent cause of food poisoning than is generally supposed. This organism is a common source of human infection and gives rise to boils, carbuncles, septic conditions of the hands and fingers, sore throat, chronic nasal catarrh, and osteomyelitis. It is commonly present in the mouth and skin of normal individuals, but only certain varieties of *staphylococcus* produce a potent toxin. This micro-organism grows in the food usually after it has been prepared, and, as a rule, gives rise to symptoms within a few hours of being consumed.

(b) The *Salmonella* group of bacteria is allied to the typhoid and paratyphoid bacilli, and contains a large number of closely related organisms which have been responsible for food poisoning. *Salmonella* bacteria may be present in the animal when slaughtered for food, or may gain access at all stages of food preparation, from human or animal (e.g., rat and mouse) contamination. The infection can also be caused by a human "carrier," who may have had a previous attack of intestinal trouble. The organisms remain present in the intestine and are excreted in the faeces. The carrier is an apparently normal person, but may from time to time have attacks of diarrhoea. During this stage he is particularly dangerous. Rats and mice suffer from *salmonella* infection, which causes extensive and fatal epidemics among them. (Indeed, an extensively advertised rat "virus" for rodent destruction contains a living *salmonella* organism as the active agent.) Many

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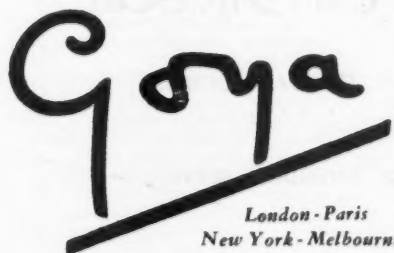
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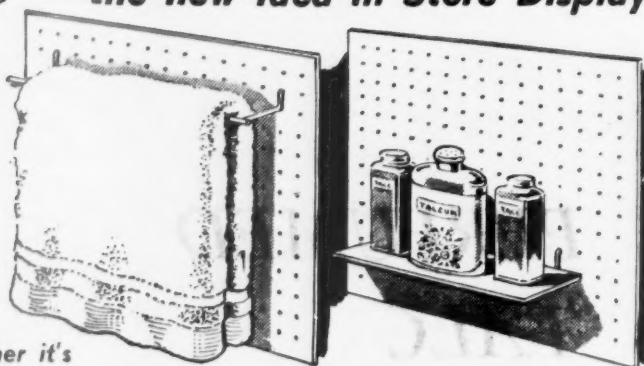
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SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

of these animals harbour the bacteria in their intestine, and soiling of food from rat or mouse faeces may be a source of infection to human beings.

The salmonella group of bacteria may produce a pre-formed toxin which is ingested with the food, but usually there is an infection with living organisms which flourish in the intestine, causing a severe inflammatory reaction, with marked vomiting and diarrhoea.

(c) Botulism, fortunately, is rare in this country. The causative organism, *Clostridium botulinum*, is normally found in the soil, and forms spores which are very resistant to heat and chemical agents. During the process of canning, the spores may not be destroyed, and later grow in the food, forming a very powerful toxin which is the cause of the illness. The effects (which come on within about 24 hours) are weakness, dizziness, inco-ordination of muscular movements, disturbances of vision and difficulty of swallowing and talking. The types of food associated with botulism are canned vegetables, which have been insufficiently processed, and preserved meat products such as ham, sausages, or meat paste. The manufacturers of canned goods are very alive to the possibilities of botulism, and all the reputable firms do—as far as possible—take all precautions to avoid this form of food poisoning. It may, however, occur in home processed preserved foods. The last serious outbreak in Britain was the Loch Maree tragedy in Scotland, in August, 1922, when a party of visitors at the hotel went fishing and took with them sandwiches containing potted wild duck paste. The first person was taken ill early the next morning, and the first death occurred on the evening of that day, within 30 hours of consuming the sandwiches. In all eight persons died. In America, home-canned asparagus, spinach and apricots have been responsible.

Having reviewed the main causes, let us now consider how food poisoning can be prevented.

(1) Firstly, take the *staphylococcus*. Like all other bacteria it requires moisture, warmth and nutriment to be able to grow. It will multiply particularly well in milk, or milk products such as custard, trifle, cream fillings, ice cream mix, in stews, cut meat such as sliced cooked meat, brawn, tongue, etc. This germ is constantly present on the hands, in septic spots, in the mouth and nose, and so can easily be introduced into food materials during their preparation.

It is obvious that persons suffering from boils, septic fingers or dermatitis are likely to cause food poisoning, but the comparatively few organisms with which they contaminate food are usually not of themselves sufficient to cause gastro-intestinal upset. It is only when these infected foods have been allowed to stand in a warm kitchen for a few hours or overnight during the summer months that the number of organisms become dangerous. As an example the following may be quoted:

An American Army hospital near a large town in England wished to give the troops ice cream during the summer months. A large quantity of the ice cream mixture was made up in the afternoon and allowed to stand overnight. The next morning it was taken to an ice cream manufacturer for freezing. The Americans allowed the manufacturer to retain a surplus of ice cream for his own use, and he mixed this with some of his own make and distributed it to school children. Most of the children who ate the ice cream showed within two to three hours marked symptoms of food poisoning, with severe vomiting and diarrhoea. It was soon found that only those children were affected who had eaten the ice cream that was mixed with the American hospital product. The hospital authorities were immediately warned and their ice cream was destroyed, except for a small portion sent to their own laboratory for examination. Some of the American

laboratory staff tasted this ice cream and soon showed symptoms of food poisoning.

An examination of the ice cream and vomited material from the children showed the presence of a large number of staphylococci, capable of producing a potent toxin. What had happened was obvious. The ice cream mixture had been contaminated with staphylococci by one of the food handlers in the hospital kitchen, who prepared the mix. He was found to have a nasal catarrh with abundant staphylococci, from which he had infected his fingers and so conveyed the organisms to the ice cream mix. During a warm night, or in a hot kitchen heated foods cool slowly and thus there are ideal conditions for the rapid growth of bacteria, namely, warmth and suitable food supply. The staphylococcus grows well at temperatures below that of body heat (98 degrees F.) and within a few hours it will have multiplied at an enormous rate. The next day, therefore, when the ice cream mix went to be frozen it contained an abundance of staphylococci and their toxins, which, of course, were not destroyed in any way by the freezing process. As a result enough toxin was taken when the ice cream was eaten to cause severe symptoms of poisoning. Shortly after this incident the American hospital again had a severe outbreak of food poisoning amongst the troops following an issue of ice cream. This also was due to a staphylococcus which was proved to be of the same type as that isolated from the first outbreak. It was found that the food handler above mentioned was also responsible for this second outbreak, and the ice cream mix had been prepared as before and left overnight in a warm kitchen before being frozen.

Another example of the result of leaving food before being eaten is as follows:—

A number of people were taken ill after eating brawn from a shop. The brawn had already been sliced in the morning in order to save time during serving the customers. In the brawn and in the vomit from the ill persons were found abundant staphylococci. What had happened was that the slices of brawn had either been infected from a dirty knife or by the fingers of the person who handled them after they had been cut.

It is easily seen how anyone with a sniffing nose can contaminate food. When handling a moist and greasy substance like brawn the inclination would be not to try and extract a handkerchief from the pocket, but to wipe the nose with the back of a forefinger and continue cutting up the meat. During the interval between cutting the brawn and its consumption the staphylococci had grown profusely in the moist meat, and produced abundant toxin.

Similar examples could be cited of other food products such as custard, cream filling for cakes (probably infected while filling the cakes which were then exposed for hours in a shop window), cold roast beef, stews, or soup allowed to cool slowly in a dirty basin or in one wiped out with a dirty cloth. The presence of the staphylococcus in such infected food products is usually not detectable either by appearance, smell or taste.

It will be understood from the above that staphylococcal food poisoning can be prevented by cleanliness of the hands and utensils, by not preparing foods too long in advance, by not keeping moist or liquid foods in a warm atmosphere. If such foods have to be kept they should be kept covered, cooled as quickly as possible, and placed in a refrigerator.

(2) The *salmonella* organism may be present in the food when distributed, as in meat carcasses and dried eggs, but cleanliness in slaughter houses and butcher's shops, together with rigid inspection of the meat before issue, have done much to reduce this infection. Occasionally dried eggs may be infected, but thorough cooking will destroy the living organisms. Ducks and ducklings suffer from a natural salmonella infection, which is probably spread by rats and mice, and duck eggs may contain salmonella organisms. If the eggs are insufficiently cooked or used raw, as in mayonnaise,

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

there is a possibility of food poisoning. Thorough cooking makes infected eggs safe for human consumption, and in Germany, where these infections are not uncommon, a law has been passed which specifies that all duck eggs offered for sale must be stamped indelibly, "**Ducks' eggs. Boil.**" All containers in which these eggs are exposed for sale must be labelled, "**Duck eggs. To be boiled for at least eight minutes, or thoroughly cooked.**" A notice is also to be displayed warning the public that if the eggs are consumed raw or lightly cooked, food poisoning may follow.

As an example of how salmonella infections may be brought about a recent incident will suffice. In a hospital in London 24 of the nursing staff, one of the medical staff, and two children were suddenly taken ill with vomiting and diarrhoea. In addition three of the kitchen staff reported sick with a similar condition later in the day. Suspicion fell on a vanilla cream, which when examined bacteriologically was found to contain *Salmonella typhi-murium*. The milk and hen's eggs were found to be above suspicion, no duck eggs were used, and the vanilla essence was sterile. The powdered gelatin used was examined and found to contain the same kind of salmonella organisms. This evidently was the source of the infection. It was later ascertained that the gelatin was supplied in a 6-lb. package from which it was taken as required. One of the kitchen staff was found to have *Salmonella typhi-murium* in her faeces. What probably happened was that she had grossly infected her hands during a visit to the W.C., had not washed them, and had contaminated the gelatin package when she withdrew some of the contents. It was shown that the salmonella organisms survived in this sample of gelatin on storage at room temperature for over three months.

Salmonella and enteric organisms may be present in the faeces, and after a visit to the W.C., may be transferred to the hands. Toilet paper is porous, and inevitably after its use some faecal material has penetrated through to the fingers. This is especially true if diarrhoea or looseness of the bowels is present, and it is in these conditions that a carrier is likely to excrete many more bacilli.

A thorough washing of the hands after a visit to the W.C. should be practised by all. This should be taught to all children at an early age so that it becomes an ingrained habit. Especially in the preparation of food should strict personal cleanliness be observed, and in all places where large amounts of food are prepared such as restaurants, meal centres, canteens, etc., there should be ample washing facilities with hot water, soap and clean towels close to the W.C., so that thorough cleansing of the hands can be carried out immediately after the visit. Unfortunately, due to ignorance or just plain neglect, these elementary precautions for cleanliness are seldom provided, with the result that there is always a danger of an outbreak of food poisoning or enteric disease.

Similarly, the hands should be washed from time to time during food preparation. All utensils must also be kept properly clean and not allowed to remain soiled as bacteria can then grow on them just as well as in the food. These remarks about washing apply equally well to the home as to the restaurant. Food handlers in restaurants, meal centres and canteens should preferably be medically examined before being engaged. They should not be suffering from tuberculosis or venereal disease. They should be free of boils, septic sores and dermatitis, especially on the hands. Anyone showing such lesions should not be allowed to handle food until they are completely healed. If there has been any previous history of enteric fever or persistent diarrhoeal disease the person should not be engaged in the preparation of food at all.

The harbouring by rats and mice of salmonella organisms has been mentioned above, and these pests should be rigorously suppressed. Not only do they spoil and waste food by gnawing into sacks and other receptacles, but contamination from their faecal material is a real source of danger of salmonella infection.

(3) With regard to botulism, it should be noted that non-acid foods such as vegetables are more difficult to can or bottle safely than fruits. Vegetables should not be preserved in liquid at home except in a pressure cooker. The methods of drying, salting and pickling involve little or no danger from botulism.

Foods which are dry and on which bacteria therefore cannot flourish, are not usually associated with food poisoning; these include bread, dry cakes without filling, and dry cereals. It is not possible in a short article such as this to mention all the various aspects of food poisoning, but certain precautions can be emphasised. Reject any canned goods which show signs of "blowing" or "bulging." If the food does not taste right and you are suspicious about it, do not eat it. On the other hand infected food may show nothing in the appearance, taste or odour to indicate that it is dangerous. There is the example of the meat inspector in Brussels, who examined some sausages suspected of causing illness. They appeared normal and he passed them fit for human consumption. 'To demonstrate his assurance in this opinion he ate some himself. He developed severe gastro-intestinal symptoms and died within five days.

What happens when a case of food poisoning is reported? The premises are visited and a careful inquiry made to ascertain the nature of the illness, its severity, and its possible association with some article of food. Samples of suspected foods are taken in sterile containers, also samples from the affected persons of vomit material and faeces if available. Sometimes all the incriminated food has been consumed or thrown away, in which case reliance must be placed on the human samples. The materials taken are grown in the laboratory on the particular types of culture media favourable to the different kinds of food poisoning organisms. If the *staphylococcus* is the contaminating organism it is usually found in large numbers, and from its cultural appearances and biological characteristics an estimate of its pathogenicity can be formed.

With regard to the *Salmonella* organisms it is comparatively easy to ascertain if a bacterium isolated belongs to the group, but it is often a lengthy and complicated procedure to identify it precisely.

Clostridium botulinum is detected and isolated by special methods which need not be described here.

From the above account it will now be appreciated how food poisoning may arise, and simple precautions against it may be summarised as follows:—

Do not keep milk foods in a warm kitchen, or allow them to cool slowly. Any soups, stews, etc., allowed to get cold should be well boiled again before being eaten. Do not prepare sliced moist foods too far in advance. Above all, keep the hands and utensils scrupulously clean, and wash the hands well in soap and water after each visit to the W.C. A mere perfunctory moistening of the fingers under the cold tap is not sufficient. If the food tastes peculiar or if you are in any doubt as to whether to eat it or not—DON'T—it is simplest and safest to get rid of it.

If you are unfortunate enough to have food poisoning in your home you should:—

- (1) Notify the Medical Officer of Health immediately if you do not call in a doctor. Your local town hall or the nearest police station will tell you where he is.
- (2) Do not throw away any food that has been left over, but keep it for the health authorities to examine.
- (3) Try and keep vomited material (for example in a chamber pot), and in the case of diarrhoea some of the loose stools. These are very necessary in the investigation of the outbreak.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of South Australia met at 25 King William street, Adelaide, on September 16, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Mr. K. S. Porter (President) in the Chair, Messrs. E. F. Lipsham, G. L. Burns, B. F. Mildren, D. C. Hill, and the Registrar.

Correspondence.—A letter was received from a country Board of Health complaining of the service given by the local pharmacist. It was decided that the pharmacist concerned should be written to advising him of the details of the complaint, and asking if he would supply the Board with information relating to his hours of service and details of any arrangements which he has made for after hours dispensing.

From a registered pharmaceutical chemist complaining of the action of certain pharmacists in entering on tax deduction cards items which are not properly allowable as tax deductions. It was decided that, as this is a matter of trading, the complaint should be referred to the F.P.S.G.A. (S.A. Branch).

From the Public Relations Secretariat giving information in connection with the Therapeutic Substances Bill. It was decided that Mr. Attwill be thanked for the information supplied, and asked if he would forward copies of the Bill so soon as they became available.

Conference.—A report of the meeting of Pharmacy Boards held in Sydney on August 14 was considered.

Discussion took place on the danger or advantages of coloured tablets, but owing to the diversity of opinion expressed, it was decided that no action should be taken in this matter.

In connection with the scheduling of poisons, it was decided that the present scheduling in this State is satisfactory, and that this Board is prepared to arrange for a representative to attend an early conference of representatives of Pharmacy Boards with a view to obtaining uniformity throughout the States.

It was noted at the Brisbane Conference that a representative of one of the States made a statement with reference to the Pharmacy Board collecting its own evidence of accuracy in dispensing and conformity with regulations. A sub-committee was appointed to draft a statement for the next meeting of the Board.

Depots.—A circular issued by a country pharmacist having been received, it was decided that a letter should be forwarded to the pharmacist concerned pointing out that it would appear from his circular that he was committing a breach of the regulations, and requesting from him an explanation as to the position.

Relievers.—Mr. C. R. D. Austin to Messrs. H. N. Flaherty, J. Windle and Mrs. L. J. Maloney; Mr. B. A. Scrivener to Mr. R. H. Grist; Mr. P. G. Warnecke to Messrs. E. A. Plotz, C. H. C. Ward; Mr. L. C. Norman to Mr. H. G. Collyer; Miss A. A. L. Dent to Messrs. J. R. Pickering, D. B. Goscombe; Mr. P. S. Wurm to Mr. Walter C. Cotterell; Mr. R. C. Holder to Messrs. D. S. W. Humble, M. I. Brady; Mr. J. K. Teakle to Messrs. M. R. Eckersley, H. B. Smith, R. H. Veitch, E. F. Williams, A. W. Clark; Mrs. H. B. Morrow to Mr. G. P. Bartold; Mr. L. A. Lever to Mrs. L. J. Maloney, Estate E. J. Francis; Mr. W. R. Caught to Mr. C. A. N. Jensen; Mr. H. J. Philp to Mr. P. K. Porter; Mr. D. S. Warren to Mr. E. E. Hogben; Mr. R. J. Tulloch to Messrs. M. P. Connell, C. S. Huxtable; and Mr. B. J. Richards to Mr. J. B. Ware.

Labels.—Correspondence was received from a chemist forwarding a copy of his new labels, and it

was decided that a letter of appreciation should be forwarded to the pharmacist concerned for the co-operation given.

Advertising.—An amended copy of scrip used by a pharmacist was considered, and it was decided that such is now in order.

An advertisement issued by a pharmacist dealing with dispensing services was tabled. As this advertisement appeared to be a contravention of the Brisbane Conference resolution, it was decided that a letter should be forwarded to the pharmacist concerned requesting that he conform to the requirements of such resolution.

Finance.—Statement for the month was submitted and adopted, and accounts totalling £17/15/9 were passed for payment.

Apprentices.—Permission was granted for the following assignments of indentures:—Miss A. P. O'Shaughnessy from Mr. R. J. Tulloch to Mrs. Y. R. Phillips; Mr. P. R. G. Maloney from Mr. R. W. Daniell to Mrs. L. J. Maloney; Miss P. D. Stanley from Mr. D. B. Goscombe to Miss A. A. L. Dent; Mr. H. W. Giles from Mr. R. P. Clancy to Mr. S. C. Patterson.

Indentures were received from nine apprentices for noting of extension owing to absence from pharmacy on National Service Training.

Correspondence was received from four students whose examination entries were received after the closing date. In view of the explanations given by these students, it was decided that they be permitted to sit for the examinations.

Supplementary Examinations.—Set out hereunder is the policy adopted by the Board of Pharmaceutical Studies in the matter of granting supplementary examinations:—

A candidate who fails in, or is absent from, the November examinations may be granted a supplementary examination in any subject in which he has failed if the Board of Studies, after considering any recommendations made by examiners, is of the opinion that his year's work has been satisfactory, and that he has a reasonable chance of passing such a supplementary examination, and if:

- (a) he presents a medical certificate which the Board of Examiners considers satisfactory showing that illness either prevented him from sitting or seriously disabled him immediately prior to the examination; or
- (b) being in either the first, second or third year, he has taken a normal year's work and has passed in at least one subject; or
- (c) he is in his final year; or
- (d) being a student enrolled in less than the total number of subjects, or sections of subjects, set down for a yearly examination, he has failed in only one of the examinations for which he sat; or
- (e) he is an ex-serviceman who, having sat and failed, can satisfy the Board of Examiners that because of facts connected with his war service he should be given an early second attempt to reach the required standard in the subject or subjects in which he has failed.

Registration of Premises.—Applications were received and noted from Messrs. J. B. Ryder, R. J. Tulloch, D. B. Goscombe, B. E. Webber, J. M. Daly, F. M. Streicher, W. Pak-Poy, A. W. Nicholas, J. C. Measday and Mrs. L. J. Maloney.

Application from Mr. R. A. Hanna was deferred pending opening of his pharmacy.

Triennial Elections.—It was decided that the election be held on December 14, 1953, and that nominations on the prescribed form must be lodged on or before 4 o'clock in the afternoon on Monday, November 16, 1953, at the office of the Registrar, where in the event of an election being held voting papers are to be transmitted or left on or before 1 p.m. on December 14, 1953.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Annual Meeting

An attendance of approximately seventy members and students was presided over by Mr. A. C. Holloway, President of the Society, at the Annual General Meeting of members of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia, held in the 5DN Auditorium, Gawler Place, Adelaide, on August 25, at 8 p.m.

The President's Report.—After formal business had been dealt with, the Secretary read the annual report for the year.

Special reference was made in the report to the death of Mr. J. D. Garrett, who had been President for the past three years.

It was interesting to note that membership of the Society had increased by thirty-one during the year.

In the reference to the activities of the Pharmaceutico-Medical Liaison Committee, the channelling of prescriptions, telephoning of prescriptions, removal of literature from containers of injectibles and after-hours dispensing and repeats were dealt with. The report drew attention of members to the resolution of the Brisbane Conference relating to the advertising of dispensing services.

In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Holloway asked that there should be added an expression of appreciation to the Secretary and his staff for the interest and co-operation displayed by them in matters affecting the Society and its members. The resolution for the adoption of the report was duly seconded and carried.

Financial Statements.—The Honorary Treasurer, Mr. D. F. J. Penhall, moved the adoption of the Financial Statements, and gave some explanations in regard to the principle items included in the statements. The motion was seconded and carried.

Auditor.—Mr. K. G. Oswald was reappointed auditor for the ensuing year.

General Business.—A member raised a question as to what action could be taken against a member of the Society who introduced a Coca-Cola section into his pharmacy. The questioner was requested to address the inquiry in writing to the Advisory Committee. This was followed by an inquiry as to what were the powers of the Advisory Committee? The answer given was that the Advisory Committee had no legal powers to enforce recommendations, but relied on the co-operation of all parties.

The matter of after-hour dispensing was raised by a member, and the meeting agreed that in matters of urgency it was a chemist's duty to dispense. The tendency, however, of some members to sell goods whether exempted or otherwise after normal closing hours was deprecated.

After the business of the meeting concluded, Dr. J. McCartney, Head of the Bacteriological Division of the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science, of South Australia, addressed members on the subject, "Food poisoning," and at the conclusion of his address showed a film in which attention was drawn to the basic principles of cleanliness in order to avoid contamination of food.

The projector and amplifiers were made available by courtesy of Kodak (A'asia) Pty. Ltd.

After the address had been delivered, the President expressed the appreciation of members to Dr. McCartney and to Kodak (A'asia) Pty. Ltd., and members showed their appreciation by acclamation.

After the address members adjourned for supper.

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia met at 25 King William street, Adelaide, on September 8, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Mr. A. C. Holloway (President) in the Chair, Messrs. E. F. Lipsham, K. S. Porter, D. F. J. Penhall, J. D. Duncan, A. A. Russell, and the Secretary.

Correspondence.—From Mr. T. K. Clarke, requesting a copy of the A.P.F. to be forwarded to him. Mr. Clarke has been advised that copies of 7th Edition are now out of print and that the 8th Edition is in course of preparation.

From the Central Board of Health, giving details of the amendments to the Food and Drugs Regulations in connection with any medicines containing the drug Mercurous Chloride.

To the Central Board of Health, asking for a ruling on the stocks now held by pharmacists. An inquiry has also been directed to the wholesale houses asking if existing stocks now held by pharmacists can be returned to the wholesalers from whom such were purchased. When this information is available further details will be published in the "Gilseal News."

Students:

Text Books.—Report in connection with text books was received. It was noted that Henstell and Cook and Managham and Hockley have been issued to alternate students in the Biology Course. It was decided that any student so requesting should be allowed to borrow a text book not already issued to him.

Authority was granted for the indent of text books, particularly Macbeth and Cooper, the amount of the indent being approximately £600. Inquiries are proceeding in regard to the new Codex and the new Bentley and Driver.

First Year Students Arithmetical Calculations.—Report submitted indicated that, despite a large increase in the amount of tuition now given, the results of recent tests have been very unsatisfactory.

Supplementary Examinations.—It was noted that certain conditions would apply during the forthcoming examinations. [Details of these conditions are set out as part of the report of the meeting of the Pharmacy Board of S.A. held on 16/9/53.—Ed.]

Repeating Students.—Discussion took place on the position of students who are required to repeat tuition, and it appears that the present policy of requiring students to complete each year of study and examinations before proceeding to the subsequent year will be continued. One of the reasons for this position is that the overlap of timetables would not allow equality of opportunity to all students. If it were possible to grant the concessions to all repeating students, consideration would be necessary as to any adjustments required to cover the extra time away from the pharmacy.

Education Finance.—A special meeting of the Council is to be held on October 1 to consider financial matters affecting the educational section.

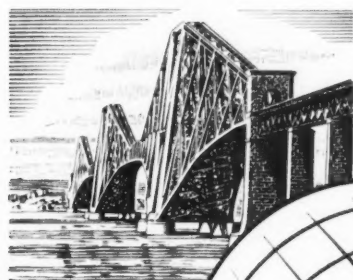
Sydney Conference.—Pending receipt of the complete minutes of the Conference, it was decided that consideration of preliminary reports should be deferred.

Pharmaceutico-Medical Liaison Committee:

After Hours Dispensing.—A list of the names of pharmacists, together with telephone numbers available for After Hours Dispensing, was received, and it was decided that this information should now be forwarded to the British Medical Association for distribution to its members.

Squatting.—A further case of squatting has been reported, and correspondence forwarded to the pharmacist concerned asking him to meet members of the Advisory Committee to discuss the position.

The Advisory Committee has also met in conference with two members to discuss the opening of a new pharmacy in close proximity to an existing business, and although the Committee advised that the new



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SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

pharmacy should not be opened at the present time, it is thought that the member concerned proposes to continue his negotiations.

The Advisory Committee also met and discussed with two members the position of the opening of a new pharmacy, and advised that they considered that the opening of the pharmacy at the site selected is unwarranted at this stage. It appears that the advice given has been accepted by the parties concerned.

Finance.—Statement for the month of August was submitted and adopted, and accounts totalling £587/9/- were passed for payment.

Membership.—Consideration of the resignation of two members was deferred pending a member of the Council discussing the position with the members with a view to pointing out the necessity of all playing their part in contributing towards the cost of maintaining the standards of pharmacy in this State.

Ladies' Night.—It was resolved to proceed with arrangements for the holding of a ladies' night at the Mount Osmond Country Club. A Sub-Committee comprised of Messrs. A. A. Russell and D. F. J. Penhall, with power to add to their numbers, was appointed for the purpose of completing the necessary arrangements.

A.P.F. Revision.—Correspondence has been received from the Editorial Committee dealing with the comments on the typescript, Therapeutic Index and special section of modifications for Australian conditions. This correspondence will be dealt with by the A.P.F. Revision Committee.

THE GUILD

S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the South Australian Branch of the Guild met at 195 Victoria Square, Adelaide, on September 21, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. Walter C. Cotterell, H. G. Collyer, E. L. Miller, A. A. Russell, R. R. Patrick, V. L. Mitchell, A. C. Holloway, and the Secretary.

Apology received from Mr. G. K. F. Scott on account of illness.—Resolved that the Secretary write to Mr. Scott in respect to his illness.

Election of Officers.—The Returning Officer (Mr. R. J. Oswald) declared the following officers elected:—

President: Mr. Walter C. Cotterell.

Vice-President: Mr. H. G. Collyer.

Treasurer: Mr. E. L. Miller.

The persons concerned thanked the other members of the Committee for their favourable support.

New Members Elected.—Messrs. H. D. Paul, Glenelg; D. J. Underwood, Tumby Bay; R. A. Crago, Warradale Park; J. M. Daly, Christie's Beach; R. J. Tulloch, Croydon Pk. Ext.; R. A. Hanna, Windsor Gardens; R. D. Fleer, Northfield.

Changing of Office.—The Secretary reported that he had purchased premises in Sturt street, Adelaide, and was having them completely remodelled, and requested that the Committee note that the change will take place approximately towards the end of October or early November. This was unanimously agreed to.

Renmark Chemists.—The President gave a further general resume of the affairs relative to the conditions among members at Renmark. The Committee intimated they were prepared to accept Mr. Hagley's letter, and the Secretary was authorised to write to all chemists in that town in terms as discussed at the meeting.

Federal Delegate's Report.—The Federal Delegate (Mr. Walter C. Cotterell) gave a general resume on the matters dealt with at the Sydney Conference, also the

Federal Council Meeting held last week in Canberra; Repatriation Agreement; Reference to Boots Pharmacies Ltd.; Increase in number of Pensioner Benefits (approximately 110,000 persons); Interviewing of Members of Parliament in regard to P.M.S. and P.B.A.

Pricing Officer's Report.—The Pricing Officer (Mr. A. A. Russell) gave a resume on Price Lists in general. He would take up the matter of local prices with the local wholesale houses in respect to their printing a sheet covering their lines and prices to conform to the Guild List sizes. He reported on the pricing of prescription to the nearest 3d. up to 40/- and the nearest 6d. above 40/-. He also reported on a scale of professional fees as charged in Queensland, and dealt with the question of Dispensing Drug Tariff, and suggested that it might be a good idea for the Federal Office to print a special booklet for all members dealing with the mannerism of that type of pricing in general. He also raised the question of baby weight cards. Members would gather information in respect to this and report it to the next meeting.

Financial.—The financial statement was presented and approved, and accounts totalling £79/15/5 were passed for payment.

Industrial Court.—The Secretary reported on this matter, and it was resolved that the President would contact the Students' Association with a view to meeting the students and giving them a talk on industrial matters generally.

Taxation Cards.—The question was raised regarding permissible lines for entry on taxation cards. It was suggested that the Secretary take this matter up with Federal Office to see if direction could be given by the Commissioner of Taxation with a view to dry milk foods such as Glaxo, Lactogen and Nestogen being made eligible for inclusion in tax deductions.

Labelling of Ethicals.—A discussion arose on ethical lines which were difficult to label, and ways and means to overcome it.

Appreciation of Mr. Cotterell's Services.—The members who attended the Sydney Conference desired to place on record their appreciation of the way their Branch President, Mr. Cotterell, had conducted the meeting of the Pharmaceutical Association at the Conference, he being President thereof. Mr. Cotterell thanked them accordingly.

Conference Expenses.—The matter of the Federal Delegate's expenses to the Sydney Conference to be made a remit to the next meeting.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

Lt. J. K. Little called at the Council office recently whilst on leave, prior to proceeding to Japan, where he is pharmacist at the Britcom General Hospital at Kure.

Congratulations and best wishes to **Messrs. R. H. Emslie** and **M. A. Lankester**, who have opened new pharmacies at Floreat Park and Attadale, respectively, and to **Mr. W. F. Patterson**, who has purchased the pharmacy opened by Mr. E. H. Williams at Bedford Park recently.

The many friends of **Dr. E. M. Watson** will be glad to learn that he has returned to duty at the College after nine months spent overseas following his illness last year.

Birth.—Congratulations to Mr. E. J. Nicholas, who became the proud father of a son on August 18.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA (Continued)

Owing to the illness of his wife, **Mr. G. H. Dallimore** was unable to attend the Guild Federal Council meeting in Canberra in September, and **Mr. D. G. T. Allan** attended in his stead. At the time of writing these notes Mrs. Dallimore was making a good recovery.

We are glad to report that **Mr. G. A. Illsley** is now back at the pharmacy, after having undergone an operation last month.

At the Pharmaceutical Council meeting held on September 1 congratulations were offered to **Mr. E. J. Nicholas** on his appointment as Hon. Consulting Pharmacist to the Royal Perth Hospital.

Chemists on holiday last month included Messrs. J. S. Gunning (Miss V. V. Todd relieving), A. W. Walsh (Miss V. V. Todd), E. C. Knight (Miss C. L. Blake), L. A. Fauckner (Miss C. L. Blake), A. J. Stewart (Mr. E. A. O'Callaghan), M. J. Thomas, (Mr. L. G. Cooper), K. L. Medd (Miss D. L. Palmer), W. S. L. Eddleston (Miss D. L. Palmer), R. P. Davis (Mrs. D. H. Barry), C. M. Wright (Mr. W. Wright).

Mr. R. V. Hoile has been appointed a Justice of the Peace.—Congratulations.

WEDDINGS.

Congratulations and best wishes to **Mrs. Larsen** (nee Fay Flint), who was married on August 28.

Congratulations also to **Mr. A. R. Kierath**, who was married on September 19.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

At the monthly meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society, held on August 26, there was standing room only in the lecture room to hear Dr. B. J. Grieve's address on Plant Hormones. At the conclusion of the address several questions were answered by the speaker.

WARNING RE SALE OF POISONS TO JUNIORS.

Chemists are reminded that it is illegal to sell poisons to any person who is apparently under 18 years of age. Should a fatality occur it would be no defence that a note from a parent or teacher had been produced in order to obtain the poison.

W.A. CHEMIST AT BISLEY.

Mr. Ernest A. Taylor, of Boyup Brook, who was a member of the Australian rifle team at Bisley this year, set down some of his impressions in a letter to the Registrar, Mr. F. W. Avenell, to whom we are indebted for these extracts:—

"Although I had a wonderful time and I should say I had a trip of a lifetime, I was very glad to see Fremantle again, and especially my wife and young son, after four months' tripping around.

"The Australian rifle team achieved quite good results in winning the Kolapore Cup, which is one of three team trophies competed for by Empire teams. Canada won another trophy—New Zealand the third.

"The Bisley Queen's prize was won by Major N. W. McCaw, of Great Britain, and of a total of 16 members of the Australian team, nine, including myself, won coveted Queen's Badges. My shooting generally, like that of most members of the team, was not more than good average. Shooting conditions there were quite different to ours, and also the changing light beat most riflemen.

"Although we missed the Coronation, we were in England shortly after and saw the tremendous crowds of visitors, and the most elaborate and beautiful Coronation decorations.

"Some of the notable places we visited were Windsor Castle, Warwick Castle, the home of Shakespeare at

Stratford-on-Avon, Oxford and Cambridge, where we saw many of the famous University Colleges. We had a marvellous trip to Birmingham, where we were the guests of a rifle organisation and were received by the Lord Mayor of this huge industrial city.

"Bisley rifle range is in Surrey, about 30 miles S.W. of London, and in most beautiful surroundings. The whole trip was wonderful, and we saw England at its very best. The team members were from all walks of life, of course, and, although there are at least two prominent chemist riflemen in the Eastern States, I was the one and only chemist on this tour."

THE GUILD

S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the Western Australian Branch of the Guild met at 51 King street, Perth, on September 8.

Present.—Messrs. G. H. Dallimore (Chair), G. D. T. Allan, W. G. Lewis, R. I. Cohen, R. J. Healy, J. G. Skeahan, R. D. Edinger, J. W. Bodkin and R. W. Dalby.

Hospital Benefits.—The delegates to meeting with the Hospital Benefit Fund reported that an agreement had been reached between the Hospital Benefits Fund, and the Newsagents' Association and the Guild, that chemists would be appointed agents for the Hospital Benefits Fund, except where such an appointment would be in conflict with agencies held by newsagents, and that in such circumstances chemists could be appointed as sub-agents.

Average Ounce Rate.—The President reported that whilst attending the Sydney Conference he had investigated the average ounce rate reduction and that same was in accordance with the figures supplied by the Government to the Guild Bureau of Statistics.

Correspondence.—The correspondence as read was received.

Financial.—The treasurer's report was received and accounts passed for payment. Resolved that the window account, when presented, be paid.

Election of Officers of State Branch Committee.—All members of the State Branch Committee had been notified of the vacancies for officers and all nominations had been received. As only one nomination had been received for each office, there was no need for a ballot and the nominees were duly elected.

President.—The retiring President then left the chair and the secretary took over.

Mr. G. D. T. Allan, being the only nominee, was duly elected President amidst applause.

Mr. Dallimore, in handing over the chair, thanked the members of the State Branch Committee, both past and present, for the unstinted and loyal support that they had given him during his term of office, which began in 1937. Mr. Allan was a man whom the Guild should feel very proud to have as his successor, and he was sure that Mr. Allan would justify his election and carry on as a very successful President. Mr. Dallimore congratulated Mr. Allan on his election to the high office, and wished him all success.

Mr. Allan, in accepting the chair, thanked the members for electing him, and said that in following such a man as Mr. Dallimore he did so with some trepidation. He could only give of his best, and time alone would tell whether he had been successful or not.

Vice-Presidents.—Mr. W. G. Lewis and Mr. J. G. Skeahan were declared elected, being the only nominations received.

Hon. Treasurer.—Mr. R. J. Healy was declared elected, being the only nomination received.

Trustees.—The previous trustees, Messrs. H. Fitch, G. H. Dallimore and R. W. C. Dalby were unanimously re-elected.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA (Continued)

Federal Delegates.—Mr. G. H. Dallimore was elected first delegate and Mr. G. D. T. Allan second delegate.

Pricing Officer.—Mr. J. W. Bodkin was elected chairman of the pricing committee.

Mr. Allan then congratulated the members on their election to office and said that he knew that the loyalty and support they had accorded Mr. Dallimore in the past would be unstintingly given to him during his term of office.

Sydney Conference.—Mr. Allan tabled his report on the recent Sydney Conference, the main points being as follows:—

Mr. Walter Cotterell was elected President of the Conference; New Zealand, after many years' association with the P.A.A.N.Z., withdrew, having formed its own organisation, and it was resolved that the name of the association shall be the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia. Mr. Keith Attiwill, unfortunately, was absent, owing to his recent illness, but it was pleasing to learn that he was now well on the road to recovery. Mr. Evans presented a report on repatriation, which would be published in the Conference edition of the Journal. It was a great shock to the Conference when Mr. J. Little, Acting State President of the Guild in N.S.W., collapsed and died.

Mr. Allan concluded with a resume of the various remits, full details of which would be published in the Journal.

Pricing Conference.—Mr. J. Bodkin tabled his report on the Conference of Pricing Officers, when an agenda of thirteen items was dealt with.

The main points decided were (1) not to price fractional quantities of a grain for expensive drugs; (2) that in the future A.P.F. preparations may be included in the drug list.

The balance of the agenda dealt with items mainly concerning Federal pricing.

Endorsement of Cheques as Receipts.—Resolved that all Guild cheques be endorsed as receipts and that the Commonwealth Bank be requested to return all Guild cheques to the Guild.

Kalgoorlie Zone.—Resolved that the secretary write to the Kalgoorlie Zone, requesting particulars of costs of their recent campaign with reference to Hospital Benefits and Medical Benefits.

Branded Tablets.—Resolved that Federal Office be advised that the W.A. Branch is opposed to manufacturers marking tablets with their ethical or trade names, which causes embarrassment when broken quantities are ordered by prescription.

Thomas Table.—Resolved that chemists be advised of the correct amounts to add to the Thomas Table figures to cover present dispensing and container prices.

Prices of Drugs.—Resolved that the following remit be forwarded to Federal Office for inclusion in the agenda of the Federal Council meeting, to be held in Melbourne in October:—

"That, owing to the decontrol of drugs, all drugs prices throughout Australia be streamlined to avoid confusion in the pricing of prescriptions for P.B.A., P.M.S., Repatriation, soldiers and widows.

Building Fund.—Resolved that a special meeting of the State Branch Committee be called before the next monthly meeting to discuss the building fund prospects.

Pricing Committee.—Resolved that the Pricing Committee meet at the Guild Rooms on September 17 to review the tablet and A.P.F. preparations price lists.

Table of Tolerance.—Resolved that the Pharmaceutical Council be asked to proceed with their offer to produce a "tolerance table" and they be thanked accordingly.

The meeting closed at 11.30 p.m.

TASMANIA

PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of Tasmania met at 85 Elizabeth street, Hobart, on September 14, at 8 p.m.

Present: Messrs. H. H. Pearce (President), T. A. Stephens, J. M. Beaumont, A. G. Gould and the Registrar.

Pharmaceutical Register.—John Walker Miller and Russell Andrew Larke (ex Victoria) were registered.

Harold Sidney Kelly.—Certificate of identity was received from the Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

Mrs. Maria Augustaoskas.—Mrs. Augustaoskas, accompanied by Mr. Poynter, attended the meeting and answered a number of questions from members of the Board. Mr. Poynter stated that Mrs. Augustaoskas had done all types of dispensing for in and out-patients of the Royal Hobart Hospital and was at present handling bulk dispensing, as well as assisting with individual dispensing.—The Board decided that permission be granted for Mrs. Augustaoskas to present herself for examinations of the Board in posology and toxicology, oral prescription reading and dispensing. On satisfying the Board in the above three examinations, registration as a pharmaceutical chemist in this State would be granted to Mrs. Augustaoskas. Mrs. Augustaoskas and Mr. Poynter then left the meeting.

Apprentices.—Miss Suzanne Gladys Tatlow was accepted as an apprentice in pharmacy.

Reports on the students at the Hobart Technical College were received by Dr. Burgin.

This report showed that some students were not making satisfactory progress, and, in the case of one, who had not attended classes since April, the Registrar was instructed to write to the master concerned.

A letter was received from Mr. Brian Shirrefs, asking if he was eligible to enter for the John Lindhurst Gould Prize. It was decided that Mr. Shirrefs was eligible and that Mr. Stephens and Mr. Beaumont be appointed examiners for this purpose.

Finance.—A financial statement was presented, showing a balance of £380/8/7. Accounts totalling £42/18/- were passed for payment.

Poisons Act: Members decided that further consideration should be given to the restrictions on the sale of 8:chlorotheophylline derivatives of the antihistamines used for motion sickness. It was decided to include this subject in the next agenda.

Students Notebooks.—A letter was received from Dr. Burgin, stating that a number of notebooks sent in by students were not of a satisfactory standard. The meeting decided that all notebooks will be presented to a Board meeting before being returned to the master pharmacist, who will be advised where the work is considered unsatisfactory.

The meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania met at 85 Elizabeth street, Hobart on September 9, at 6.15 p.m.

Present.—Mr. A. P. Brammall (President), Miss M. E. Andrews, Messrs. K. H. Jenkins, E. H. Shield, A. G. Gould and the Secretary.

Social Sub-Committee.—Advice was received from the Students' Association, that Miss M. A. Purdon and

TASMANIA (Continued)

Mr. I. McIntosh had been appointed representatives for the Social Sub-Committee.

It was decided to request Mr. D. E. Fuller to call a meeting of this committee.

Library.—The Secretary reported that a donation of £5/5/- towards the Library fund had been received from Messrs. Sidwell and Townley.

P.A.A.N.Z.—The President read a report from Mr. D. R. Crisp, who attended the meeting of the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies in Sydney.

The Secretary was instructed to thank Mr. Crisp for representing the Society at that meeting and for the report he had furnished.

Federal Council of Societies.—Miss M. E. Andrews was unanimously elected representative for Tasmania to the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies.

The meeting closed at 7.45 p.m.

COMMONWEALTH

PERSONAL and GENERAL

DECLARATION OF PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS FOR SPECIFIED DISEASES.

The declaration, published in pursuance of Regulation 14A of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Regulations, in Gazette No. 7, dated February 5, 1953, is hereby amended by omitting all reference to Thyroid B.P.

Dated this 31st day of August, 1953.

ATHOL TOWNLEY,

For and on behalf of the Minister of State for Health.

Commonwealth Gazette, No. 55.

10th September, 1953.

AMENDMENTS OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH (MEDICINES FOR PENSIONERS) REGULATIONS.

1. These regulations shall come into operation on the first day of September, 1953.

2. Regulation 5 of the National Health (Medicines for Pensioners) Regulations is amended by adding at the end of sub-regulation (1) the following definition:—

“the British Pharmacopoeia” means—

(a) the edition known as the 1953 edition of the book called the British Pharmacopoeia, published under the direction of the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom; or

(b) if that edition has been added to or amended—that edition as affected by the additions or amendments.”

3. Regulation 7 of the National Health (Medicines for Pensioners) Regulations is amended by inserting in paragraph (a) of sub-regulation (1), after the words “British Pharmacopoeia,” the figures “1953.”

VETERINARIANS CONFER ON FOOT-ROT.

Commonwealth and State veterinarians completed their three-day intensive conference on foot-rot and other diseases of the feet of sheep at Young, N.S.W., on August 28.

The conference was convened by C.S.I.R.O., and met under the chairmanship of Mr. D. A. Gill, Assistant Chief of the C.S.I.R.O. Division of Animal Health and Production.

All delegates agreed that present control methods, although laborious, can eradicate foot-rot from infected

properties. Once freed from the disease, properties remain free of foot-rot regardless of weather conditions, unless the disease is reintroduced by bringing in infected sheep.

The experience of veterinarians from Tasmania and Western Australia, where foot-rot is a notifiable disease, was of great assistance to the conference in reaching this conclusion.

Delegates were impressed with the recently announced chloromycetin treatment developed by Dr. D. F. Stewart, of the C.S.I.R.O. McMaster Animal Health Laboratory, Sydney. The treatment involves the application of a 10 per cent. solution of chloromycetin in methylated spirits to the affected feet after careful paring.

If the results of Dr. Stewart's preliminary work are confirmed, this treatment will greatly assist in the campaign now being conducted to control and eradicate foot-rot. Experiments are now to be made in each State to confirm and further investigate Dr. Stewart's method of treatment.

The conference agreed that the two greatest obstacles to the control of foot-rot have been, and still are, the detection of all cases and the carrying out of adequate paring to expose all diseased tissue for treatment with medicaments.

The conference urged that extension officers concentrate on instructing graziers on methods to be used during dry periods when the incidence of the disease is at its lowest ebb to eliminate the few remaining infected sheep. With correct instruction, any grazier should be able to examine sheep's feet and segregate and treat any which show foot-rot lesions or are regarded as suspicious cases. To do this work effectively, field veterinary officers need to be properly equipped.

NEW SOUTH WALES

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

“Thou shalt not covet, but tradition approves all forms of competition.”
—*“The Latest Decalogue,”* A. H. Clough.

Mrs. P. N. Smith is in business at “Everest” Pharmacy, Chester Hill.

Mr. R. J. Saunders is conducting the pharmacy at 450 High street, Penrith.

Mr. K. V. Tubman is in business at West Maitland.

Mr. J. N. Beddie has opened a pharmacy at Cootamundra.

Miss P. W. Fiander has a pharmacy at 70 Macquarie street, Parramatta.

Mr. I. D. Thomas has purchased the “Cessnock Drug Store.”

Mr. P. Goldshaft has purchased Mr. J. Powell's pharmacy at 101 Broadway.

Mr. R. Pillans has sold his pharmacy at Greenwich and has purchased Mr. J. M. Ware's pharmacy at Moruya.

Mr. V. M. Stephenson has purchased Mr. Frank Giles' pharmacy at 396 Maitland road, Mayfield West.

Mr. Ron A. Richards has opened a pharmacy at Albury.

Mr. C. J. Roden has purchased the pharmacy of Mr. J. Castanos at Emmaville.

Mr. K. E. Foley has purchased Allen's pharmacy at Northwood.

Mr. F. D. Bulmer is in business at 204 King street, Newtown.

Mr. J. F. Fitzgerald has a pharmacy at Beverly Hills.

NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

OBITUARY.

Mr. T. C. Morrison, late of Double Bay, passed away on August 11.

Mr. F. A. Benson, late of Bondi, died on August 18.

Mr. R. Riley, lately on the staff of the Health Department (P.B. Section), has died.

THE 1953 B.P.

"Departing from long Latin tradition in medical terminology, the 1953 edition of the B.P. lists the drugs in English.

"The classicists, after the first shock, will soon be won over to the terse Anglo-Saxon simplicity of Ethinyl Oestradiol, Cyano Cobalamin and Di-iodohydroxyquinoline."

—London "Punch," 6/5/53.

MR. A. R. PENFOLD GAINS HIGH U.S. AWARD.

A cable from Chicago, U.S.A., on September 8 notified that Mr. A. R. Penfold, of the Sydney Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, had been given the Fritz-sche award of 1000 dollars (about £446) and a gold medal for achievement in the field of essential oils.

The award was made by the American Chemical Society, which was then holding its 124th national meeting in Chicago.

ANNUAL MEETING MID-NORTHERN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting and election of officers will take place at Winns Regency Room, Newcastle, on Wednesday, October 21, at 8 p.m.

A feature of the night will be the presentation to the Crippled Children's Association of the amount raised by the Chemist Ball, 1953.

Buffet supper will be served.

—SAMUEL B. MORRIS, Hon. Secretary.

SALE OF THALLIUM RESTRICTED.

The Minister for Health, Mr. M. Sullivan, said on September 16 that the new Poisons Act would come into force on September 18.

All wholesalers and retailers of any of the poisons included in the new poisons list should make themselves familiar with the new legislation.

Mr. O'Sullivan said thallium had been included in the first part of schedule 1 of the poisons list.

This means that—

- It can only be sold by a chemist or a specially licensed storekeeper whose shop is four miles or more from the nearest chemist.

- It cannot be sold to a person under 18 years of age.

- It cannot be sold to a person who is not known to the retailer, unless in the presence of a witness who is known to the retailer and the purchaser.

- Every sale must be entered in a poisons book and signed by the retailer, the purchaser and the witness, if one is required.

Mr. O'Sullivan said it would be illegal to sell thallium or any mixture containing thallium after September 18 if these conditions were not observed.

B.W. FILM AND SOCIAL NIGHT AT NEWCASTLE

A very pleasant and instructive evening was held when Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. (Aust.) Ltd. entertained members of the Mid-Northern Pharmacists' Association, and their staffs, at a film evening held in Winns Regency Room.

About 60 members of the Association were present, including some from outlying districts and the coalfields areas.

The Publicity Director of B.W.'s, Mr. Doenau, accompanied by Mr. Johnson, Assistant Sales Manager, and

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The new formula:

Vitamin A palmitate	—	2500 I.U.
Calciferol (Vit. D)	—	500 I.U.
Calcium Pantothenate	—	2 mgm.
Nicotinic Acid Amide	—	15 mgm.
Ascorbic Acid (Vit. C)	—	20 mgm.
Thiamine Hcl	—	2 mgm.
Riboflavin	—	2 mgm.
Pyridoxine Hcl	—	1 mgm.
Folic Acid	—	0.2 mgm.
Vitamin B12	—	1 mcg.

The new idea:

With synthetic Vitamin A palmitate there is no fish-oil odour, taste or after-taste, and these sugar-coated tablets cannot leak, but will readily disintegrate in the digestive tract.

Packings: Bottles of 25 and 100 Tablets

Wholesale: Per doz., 60/-, 180/-

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Agents in All States

NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

Mr. S. Kent, the Northern representative of the company travelled up from Sydney to bring the films to be shown. As it is some time since the company had conducted an evening in Newcastle, the opportunity was taken of meeting as many members of the Association as possible, and of renewing old friendships. Films shown included:

Insulin (Its Preparation and Types and Reactions).

Preparation of Diphtheria Antitoxin and Prophylactics.

Foxgloves and Digitalis Glycosides in Pharmacy, etc. Venemous Snakes and Snake Bite Treatment.

These films, all from the Wellcombe Library, were most interesting and instructive, and very topical. The first three were produced at the extensive Wellcombe Foundation Laboratories in England, and gave some small demonstration of the amount of equipment, care, time and testing as well as practical research that goes into the preparation of potent substances such as those described. The last film was in itself a spectacular example of photographic work as well as an instructive discussion of the subject matter.

To conclude the evening, B.W.'s entertained those present at a very enjoyable buffet supper, the table being most tastefully decorated with a very large silver "Unicorn" representing, of course, the well-known trade mark of the company.

In conveying a vote of thanks, the President of the M.N.P.A., said that it was indeed a pleasure to have attended and to have enjoyed the hospitality of Burroughs Wellcome & Co.. Responding on behalf of his company, Mr. Doenau stated that it had been his intention for some time to visit this large centre, and the present arrangements had enabled him and his fellow executives to meet on a social level the pharmaceutical profession of Newcastle and surrounding areas.

CHEMISTS' (STATE) AWARD.

New Wages Rates Commencing With First Complete Pay Period in August, 1953.

Manager:

Up to 4 assistants	..	£16 19 0
5 to 9 assistants	..	17 6 6
10 assistants or more	..	18 4 0

Chief Assistant

..	..	16 9 0
----	----	--------

Registered Assistant

..	..	16 4 0
----	----	--------

Unregistered Assistants:

	Male.	Female.
Under 17 years of age	£5 14 5	£5 12 10
At 17 years of age	7 8 3	6 16 2
At 18 years of age	9 11 9	7 13 2
At 19 years of age	11 13 3	8 14 2
At 20 years of age	13 0 0	9 6 9
At 21 years of age	14 2 6	10 5 6
At 22 years of age	14 13 6	10 12 6

Shop Boy or Girl, under 16 years of age .. 2 16 2

Shop Boy or Girl, under 17 years of age .. 3 2 11

Apprentices:

First Year	..	£3 1 3
Second Year	..	4 5 9
Third Year	..	5 12 0
Fourth Year	..	6 3 4

Relievers, 9/1 per hour—minimum payment of 4 hours
Casuals, 7/9 per hour—with a minimum payment of £1/15/8.

Any employee, other than an apprentice, who is attending a course of lectures at the Sydney University, as prescribed by the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales, shall be paid 7/5 per hour, with a minimum payment of twenty hours.

Casuals: If engaged on a daily bases, the rate shall be £2/13/7.

MEETING OF SOUTHERN TABLELANDS PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION.

Members of the Southern Tablelands Pharmacists' Association met at Goulburn on September 6 at 11 a.m., in the Mechanics' Institute.

Present: Messrs. P. R. D. Hollis (Goulburn), J. R. Mitchell (Goulburn), H. H. Neale (Goulburn), L. G. Clark (Goulburn), J. E. Clifton (Crookwell), E. S. Arbuckle (Goulburn), K. Allison (Goulburn), J. Mackay (Yass), N. Kite (Mittagong), R. T. Crago (Bowral), A. S. Bowden (Crookwell), P. F. Hart (Crookwell).

Messrs. W. A. Cartwright (Society), R. K. Strang (Guild) and A. E. Conolly (Joint Secretary Society and Guild).

Chairman: Mr. P. R. D. Hollis.

Apologies: Apologies were tendered for Messrs. Andrews, Hicks, Rily, Duff, Brake and Thomas, Clark (Camden), Clarke (Picton) and Lassau.

The Chairman declared the meeting open and those present stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect to the late Acting President of the Guild, James Little.

Mr. Hollis extended a hearty welcome to Mr. Cartwright and Mr. Strang, who attended on behalf of the Society and Guild respectively, stating that Mr. Cartwright would firstly speak on Society matters, and then Mr. Strang would deal with Guild affairs, particularly P.B.A. and P.M.S.

Mr. Cartwright said it was his first visit to Goulburn. He was sorry he had not been able to make the trip during his term as President of the Society. He conveyed greetings from the President, Mr. E. G. Hall, to the meeting.

Dealing with the recent twentieth Pharmaceutical Conference, held at Sydney, Mr. Cartwright said Conferences had been held for over fifty years, but this was the first Conference which had been opened by the Governor of a State. The opening ceremony in the Great Hall had been most impressive and the whole Conference had been a great boost for pharmacy.

Mr. Cartwright said he would like to pay a tribute to the manner in which the Immediate Past President, Mr. W. R. Cutler, had performed his duties and borne his responsibilities over the past two years. He was to be congratulated on his work for pharmacy as President of the Association. He was a keen man in pharmacy and took a great interest in all matters pharmaceutical.

At the first plenary session of Conference the State Minister of Health, Mr. M. O'Sullivan, addressed the meeting in happy vein, demonstrating his balanced point of view in relation to pharmacy.

The demonstrations in the Pharmacy Department this year, well organised and set up, were really excellent.

After the demonstrations, Mr. P. A. Smith, of Burroughs, Wellcome and Co. (Aust.) Ltd. had presented to Professor Thorp, for the Pharmacy Department, a refractometer, which instrument would be extremely useful. The presentation marked the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the late Sir Henry Wellcome.

A visit had been paid to Johnson and Johnson's factory, which was a most comprehensive place and well worth a visit.

Regarding remits discussed at Conference, Conference had approved of the term "Pharmaceutical Chemist" as better than the combine form "pharmacist."

Mr. Cartwright said that the women pharmacists had taken a keen interest in the Conference and their valuable help was much appreciated. A buffet dinner had been held at the Pickwick Club on August 17 and also the second combined meeting of the Women Pharmacists' Association of Australia. The women pharmacists had also formed a Federation of Women Pharmacists.

Conference had approved the suggestion that application should be made to the College of Heraldry for a coat of arms—an armorial device for the Association. Conference also adopted a suggestion for the production of a short history of the pharmacy organisations. A



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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

booklet was needed setting out the various activities and spheres of operation of the various pharmaceutical bodies, particularly for the information of new members.

Mr. Walter Cotterell, of South Australia, had been elected the new President of the Association and the N.S.W. Society was honoured by the election of Mr. E. G. Hall to the Association committee. During the Conference Mr. Hall had carried out the duties of Social President with great energy. The next meeting would be held in Melbourne in 1956.

The new poisons regulations had not yet been gazetted.

Alien Registration.—This was another matter exercising the minds of the Society and the Guild; also the Pharmacy Board. The Society would need to watch closely. Technical education was not the only criterion to be considered. Their attitude towards the community and their outlook on ethics was most important. A period of tutelage would induct them into our way of life.

Concerning publication of the names of poisons, this stimulated suicides and caused murders. Newspapers could publish the gory details, but not the names of the poisons used.

Screening of Films.—Mr. Brian Fegent was investigating the screening of films at the various zone meetings. He was looking into the types of films available.

Library.—The Society Council was publishing a list of the library books in the library and this would be soon available for use in the zones.

Concluding his remarks, Mr. Cartwright said he appreciated the attendance at the meeting. Those present had given up a beautiful day to remain indoors. They had the interests of pharmacy at heart.

Questions.

Mr. Clark, Goulburn: "Why have a separate Society and a separate Guild?" These organisations should be combined. There was no need whatever for two organisations. Mr. Clark inquired why the two bodies persisted.

Mr. Cartwright said the Society dealt with educational and ethical matters, while the Guild dealt mainly with business matters. It was not possible for one organisation to handle the whole of these affairs.

Mr. Conolly said the Guild was a trade union of employers, registered under the Conciliation and Arbitration Act; therefore, its membership was necessarily limited to master pharmacists in business on their own account. The greater number of pharmacists were not in business and the Society was their organisation, to look after their interests and to maintain and advance their professional status. It would be quite impossible to combine the two organisations.

Mr. Conolly then spoke of the use of video for advertising and the demonstrations in the Pharmacy Department.

Burroughs, Wellcome and Co. had assisted with the supper and had also presented to the department the refractometer on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Sir Henry Wellcome.

The poisons regulations had not yet been gazetted. They would deal with the question of thallium control.

Mr. Hollis suggested colouring thallium with aniline dye.

Mr. Cartwright said the colouring was not stable.

Mr. Kite, of Mittagong, inquired when the new education system would come into force.

Mr. Cartwright said it was a matter of provision of money to implement the scheme. He did not know when it would come into force. 1954 had been mentioned. No time was specified in the Act.

Mr. Hollis asked Mr. Strang to address the meeting.

Mr. Strang said he was pleased to be present. It was the first time he had attended a meeting at Goulburn.

He had visited Bathurst with the Federal President, Mr. Scott.

Mr. Strang conveyed to the meeting the regards of the Acting State President, Mr. W. F. Pinerua. The Guild had been well represented at the Pharmaceutical Conference. It had been firmly in the forefront.

Mr. Strang said he would deal briefly with the Guild's annual report, as presented at the recent annual general meeting.

Sales Tax on Cosmetics.—The matter of sales tax on cosmetics had been taken up with the manufacturers. It was anticipated that the coming Budget would reduce tax.

Guild Wrapping Paper.—This was a brain-child of Mr. Leggo's and it had been very successful. He recommended the use of the Guild wrapping paper.

Drug Prices.—Drug prices had occupied much attention and thanks were due to Mr. K. E. Thomas, Mr. R. S. Leece and Mr. L. M. Fox for their good effort during the year.

Guild Comprehensive Service.—This service for £4/4/- was very popular. The committee was proud of the service provided. Price lists and bulletins were produced for Western Australia, and Queensland would join the service in October.

Drugs Sold Over the Counter—Prices.—A list was being prepared, which would be sent out with the bulletin soon.

Dispensing in Public Hospitals—Pharmaceutical Benefits.—Some hospitals still did not avail themselves of the services of Guild members. "Are there any such hospitals in your area?" asked Mr. Strang.

Mr. Attiwill's Illness.—Everyone had been very sorry to hear of Mr. Attiwill's illness, but he was now back on duty, contributing his wide knowledge to the cause of pharmacy.

Merchandising.—The Merchandising Department continued to promote "Chemists Only" lines. Relaxa Tabs had been a tremendous success.

Mr. Strang said he would like to deal with P.B.A. and P.M.S. matters after lunch.

The Chairman invited questions.

Mr. Hollis said, regarding Guild paper, one had to buy the whole parcel. Why not bundle the different sizes separately? Usually a lot of the small size was left over. It should be possible to buy bundles individually in the separate sizes.

P.B. Dispensing at Public Hospitals.

Mr. Hollis said the annual report referred to a circular from the Hospitals Commission and implied that all P.B. drugs could be farmed out for dispensing.

Mr. Conolly explained that the final decision as to dispensing of P.B.'s rests with the local hospital board. However, the dispensing of P.B.'s must be done by a pharmacist, either at the hospital or in his pharmacy.

Merchandising—Rural and Veterinary Lines.

Mr. Clifton said the Merchandising Department should set up a sub-committee to establish "Chemists Only" lines in the rural and veterinary fields. A number of lines that the chemist introduced were drifting away to other traders. It was important to have "Chemists Only" contracts for these lines. He would like to see the matter investigated and would be prepared to supply data to the Guild. The new hormones for garden use should not be overlooked.

Mr. Cartwright said he would bring the matter of poisons under notice of the Poisons Advisory Committee where poisons were involved in relation to rural and veterinary lines.

Mr. Clifton said that about two years ago he had commenced correspondence with Mr. Fegent and had got a large file on the subject.

Mr. Crago, Bowral, said he had never had a P.B. script from the hospital for private, intermediate or anything else. It was suggested to Mr. Crago that he should see the secretary and matron of the hospital, pointing out that private and intermediate patients are entitled to get their medicine from nominated chemists. Mr.

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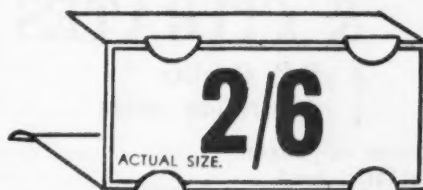
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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

Crago should ring the hospital and tell them one of his patients was going into hospital.

At this point the meeting adjourned for lunch.

Upon resumption, Mr. Strang spoke on P.B.A. and P.M.S. matters. "You all received the tear-off letter from Mr. Scott. Have you all sent in the coupon?"

Mr. Strang said we have got justice in our case and do not want to carry on under the present P.M.S. scheme.

Mr. Strang referred to a letter from the Guild secretary, dated September 3, 1953, attaching material from the Public Relations Secretariat.

Considerable discussion then took place concerning the wastage table and the P.B.A. and P.M.S. schemes generally.

Mr. Strang said that, while the B.P., 1953, applied to the Pensioners' Scheme as from 1st September (vide Circular No. 34, 2/9/53, from the P.B. Section, Department of Health), the Guild had protested against the short notice given and in practice the Department would accept drugs contained in the 1948 B.P., as well as the 1953 B.P., for the time being.

Mr. Hollis enquired if the Government had printed the new price list while negotiations were still taking place.

Mr. Conolly explained the situation.

Mr. Clark, Goulburn: "What do we do with the Sulphonamide scripts pending the taking of the Guild plebiscite?"

Mr. Mitchell, Goulburn, said the Sulphonamide scripts should be sent in under protest. The Government's attitude was like Hitler's conquest of Europe—just a little bit at a time. The Government was trying to see how much the chemist would stand, whittling down bit by bit. We must rebel or take all that was coming from the Government—or as "little" as was coming.

Mr. Strang: "Are you satisfied with what the Government proposes regarding P.M.S.?"

Mr. Conolly explained the implications contained in the Government offer. Two dispensing drug tariffs would be necessary and it would be hard to distinguish pre-priced formulae from variants.

Mr. Clark: "Pre-price everything; widen the P.M.S. scheme. Why not make the doctors use a formulary from the P.M.S.?"

Mr. Mitchell said the chemists had a defence movement. Instead of defending, we should attack. Tell the Government that P.M.S. mixtures are quite unacceptable and refuse to write P.M.S. repeats. We have been too meek, said Mr. Mitchell.

Mr. Clark: "The chemists had been servile. It was absurd for the Government to say to professional men: You are going to take it. Make a show of force. The Government said, in effect: You have made a good thing out of P.B.A.; throw in the P.M.S. They must think we are a bunch of idiots to work at a loss. Tell them what we are going to do, and attack."

Mr. Mitchell interjected: "You don't have to be silly to be a chemist, but it is a big advantage."

Hospitals Contribution Fund and Medical Benefits Fund of Australia.

Mr. Mitchell inquired whether chemists were adequately paid by these funds for collecting subscriptions. Mr. Strang said that Mr. Feller had constantly pressed for a commission of 10 per cent.

Mr. Hart, Crookwell, said the advertising scheme in "Truth" should have been done through the Guild, and Mr. Miller should be told so.

Mr. Conolly explained what had taken place.

Mr. Hollis said the H.C.F. and the M.B.A. should advertise more. Their advertisements should be properly handled by advertising agents.

Mr. Clifton said: "They have missed the bus. The Friendly Societies have beaten them."

This concluded the meeting.

Mr. Hollis thanked Messrs. Cartwright, Strang and Conolly for attending and for their work in fighting the chemists' battles.

Mr. Cartwright and Mr. Strang briefly responded.

The meeting rose at 4.30 p.m.

POISONS ACT.

SCHEDULES AND REGULATIONS GAZETTED.

Schedules and regulations under the New South Wales Poisons Act of New South Wales were published in the N.S.W. Government Gazette No. 164 of September 18, 1953.

The Schedules, which have been adopted on the recommendation of the Statutory Poisons Advisory Committee, are printed in full in the Gazette.

The main interest in these is centred in Schedule Three, which, for the first time, brings under prescriptive control a list of drugs, the sale of which in the past has not been subject to regulations of this kind, owing to shortcomings of the obsolete Poisons Act of 1902.

Items in the Third Schedule will be known as "Restricted Drugs." The list is as follows:—

Restricted Drugs.

Adrenaline, its salts and preparations, but not preparations for external or topical application, in concentrations of 1 per cent. or less.

Adrenocorticotrophic hormone ACTH and preparations containing this substance.

Aloxidone (Malidone).

Amidopyrine, its salts and preparations thereof.

Amphetamine and its salts, except when the base is supplied for inhalation absorbed upon an inert solid material, or when such substances are compounded with other drugs in tablet form in a quantity of 2 mg. or less per tablet.

Antihistamines, oral and injection, not including Benhydramine Chlorotheophyllinate.

Caramiphen hydrochloride (parpanit, parparnit).

Cortisone and other supra-renal cortical hormones, either natural or synthetic, and preparations containing these substances in a pharmaceutically elaborated form.

Dexamorphetamine and its salts except when compounded with other drugs in tablets containing less than 2 mg. per tablet.

Dicourmarol.

Diethazine hydrochloride.

Ephedrine and its salts, except when such substances are compounded with other drugs in tablet form in a quantity of half a grain or less per tablet.

Ethyl biscoumacetate.

Ethiopropazine hydrochloride (Lysivane).

Heparin.

Insulin, and preparations containing the specific hypoglycaemic principle of the pancreas.

Nor Adrenaline, its salts and preparations thereof, but not preparations for external or topical application, in concentrations of 1 per cent. or less.

Paramethadione (Paradione).

Penicillin and all preparations of penicillin and its salts and compounds of penicillin and its salts, except for veterinary, stock raising and poultry farming uses.

Pituitary gland, preparations of, for human use (ACTH, oxytocin, vasopressin), except for external and topical application.

Sex hormones, whether natural or synthetic.

Streptomycin and its salts and all other antibiotic metabolites derived from natural sources or produced synthetically and preparations thereof, except for veterinary, stock raising and poultry farming uses.

Sulphonal and its homologues.

Sulphonamides and substituted sulphonamides, except for veterinary, stock raising and poultry farming uses.

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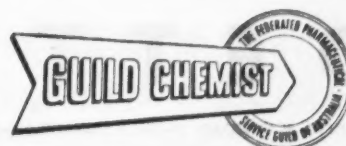


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THAT it is not so long since antiseptics were definitely unsafe in any but qualified hands? Between poisoning the germs and poisoning the sufferer, the margin was narrow indeed.

THAT, from discovery to discovery, the margin between toxic strength and germicidally effective strength has been widened and widened—until today we have 'Dettol'?

THAT 'Dettol,' though highly bactericidal, is non-poisonous? Though deadly to germs it is gentle to tissue. Though a relentless foe of many a dangerous infection, it is pleasant to use and does not even stain linen.

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THAT, not only in scientific papers contributed to the British Medical Press, but in standard text-books, 'Dettol' is recommended to their colleagues and students by doctors and bacteriologists of the very highest eminence and international repute.

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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

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Thiouracil and all derivatives thereof and preparations containing these substances.
Thiourea and preparations thereof.
Thyroid and preparations of parathyroid.
Trihexyphenidyl hydrochloride (Artane).
Vaccines, for use by injection, sera, toxins, antitoxins and antigens, except for veterinary, stock raising and poultry farming uses.

The Regulations.

New Regulations under the Poisons Act 1952 are published in the same issue of the Gazette and take effect as and from September, 18.

Regulation 4 relates to labelling of containers of poisons.

Substances included in the Third Part of the First Schedule must be labelled "Caution—Use strictly in accordance with the directions."

Containers of poisons included in the First, Second or Third Parts of Schedule One must carry the approved name of the poison or poisons contained therein.

In the case of antihistamine creams, containers must bear the approved name of the compound conferring the antihistamine properties, its concentration as a percentage and instructions that the cream is not to be taken internally.

Preparations for the prevention or alleviation of motion sickness must carry a label showing the approved name of the substance contained in the preparation conferring the properties claimed for the preparation. Not more than twelve products, each representing one dose, shall be supplied in one package.

Regulation 5 deals with the custody and control of poisons. Provides that any person having control or custody of any poison shall keep the poison separate from goods and drugs suitable for food and in such a way that if the container breaks or leaks the contents cannot contaminate drugs or goods suitable for food.

Storage of poisons is dealt with in Regulation 6, which specifies that any poison in Part One of the First Schedule shall be kept in a bottle or container, over-capped, locked or secured in a manner different from that used for non-poisons;

or
in a bottle rendered distinguishable by touch from those used for ordinary non-poisonous articles;

or
in a bottle, vessel, box or container kept in a room or cupboard set apart exclusively for dangerous articles.

Regulation 8 states that every person who sells any medicine or medicinal preparation in which is present any substance included in any of the Schedules to the Poisons List, shall attach to the container of medicine or medicinal preparation a label on which shall be printed in letters of not less than six points the approved name or names of these substances, together with the quantity and proportion thereof present in such medicine or medicinal preparation.

Regulation 9 states that when any drug for internal use consisting of or containing any poison is delivered in a quantity exceeding a single dose, the container shall bear a label showing distinctly the name of such drug and the amount of dose to be taken.

Poison Bottles.—Regulation 10 stipulates that liquid disinfectants consisting of or containing any poison included in the First or Second Parts of Schedule One, shall be sold in special containers, the specifications of which are given.

Directions for First Aid in Case of Poisoning.—Poisons which are named in Regulation 11 may be sold in containers which, in addition to any other label

required, carry a label giving the approved first aid treatment instructions to counteract the effects of the poisons or poisonous substances contained. The poisons enumerated in this regulation are: Arsenate of Lead, Arsenic and its compounds, Carbolic Acid, Sodium Hydroxide (Caustic Soda), Mercury and its salts, Cyanide of Potassium, Cresylic Acid (Lysol), Nicotine, Nitro-Benzene (Oil of Mirbane), Phosphorus, Organic Fluorophosphates, Organic Phosphonates, Organic Pyrophosphates, Strychnine, and Calcium Cyanide.

Poisons to be Coloured.—Regulation 12 specifies the means for colouring poisons for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act.

Arsenic is to be coloured by the addition of soot or indigo in the proportion of one ounce of soot or half an ounce of indigo at least, to the pound; strychnine with Armenian bole or other red colouring matter.

Agricultural, Pastoral and Horticultural Poisons.—Regulation 13. A proprietary preparation containing any poison (other than thallium or its salts) for use as a sheep or cattle dip, or for agricultural, pastoral or horticultural purposes or as a vermicide shall be exempt from the provisions of Part III of the Acts and the Regulations, other than this Regulation, made under that Part upon the following conditions:—

- (a) The proprietary preparation shall be sold only in the original unbroken or unopened container in which the preparation was packed by the manufacturer of the preparation.
- (b) Liquid proprietary preparations which contain a poison included in the first or second part of Schedule One of the Poisons List shall be sold only in bottles, tins, drums or casks of sufficient strength to bear the ordinary risks of transport without breakage or leakage, and the bottles, tins, drums or casks shall have durably labelled, marked or branded in easily legible characters in a conspicuous position thereon the word "Poison."
- (c) Solid proprietary preparations which contain a poison included in the first or second part of Schedule One of the Poisons List shall be sold only in containers of sufficient strength to bear the ordinary risks of transport without breakage or leakage and the containers shall have durably labelled, marked or branded in easily legible characters in a conspicuous position thereon the word "Poison."
- (d) The container of a proprietary preparation shall, in addition to the above provisions, be durably labelled, marked or branded with—
 - (i) the name or brand of the proprietary preparation,
 - (ii) the name and address of the manufacturer,
 - (iii) statement of the poison or poisons contained therein and the proportion of each poison,
 - (iv) the purpose for which the proprietary preparation is intended, directions for use and a notice that the contents must not be used for any purpose other than that for which it is intended, and
 - (v) directions for treatment in the case of poisoning by the proprietary preparation.

Regulation 14 provides that thallium and its salts shall be prescribed poisons for the purposes of paragraph (b) of subsection one of Section 21 of the Act.

RESTRICTED DRUGS.—Under the provisions of the Regulation 17 (1) no person shall sell by retail any restricted drug except upon the written prescription of a medical practitioner, dentist or veterinary surgeon.

This embargo is followed by a statement of conditions as under:—

- (a) The prescription shall not be dispensed more than the number of times indicated thereon, and on each occasion upon which it is dispensed shall be stamped or marked in writing or otherwise to show clearly the date upon which it is dispensed and the name and address of the person by whom it is dispensed.



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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

- (b) The person who dispenses a prescription which does not indicate the number of times such prescription may be dispensed or which has reached the last occasion upon which it can be dispensed according to the repeat instructions indicated thereon shall write, stamp or mark in legible letters across such prescription the word "Cancelled":

Provided that in respect of any prescription issued under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act, 1947, of the Parliament of the Commonwealth or the National Health (Medicines for Pensioners) Regulations under the National Health Services Act, 1948-1949, of the said Parliament, or in respect of any prescription issued on behalf of the Repatriation Commission of the Commonwealth of Australia, the duplicate of such prescription instead of the original shall be cancelled.

18. Nothing in Regulation 17 applies to the sale by retail of any restricted drug where a medical practitioner, dentist or veterinary surgeon in a case of emergency has orally or by telephone or telegram directed the dispensing of the restricted drug and the sale is made pursuant to that direction.

19. No person shall sell by retail any restricted drug unless there is attached to the container thereof a label showing the name of the restricted drug and the following direction, namely: "This preparation is a restricted drug and care must be exercised in using it."

THE GUILD

Annual Meeting

Report of the Twenty-fifth Annual General Meeting of Members of the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild of Australia (New South Wales Branch), held at "History Hall," 8 Young Street, Sydney, on Monday, August 31, 1953, at 8 p.m.

Present.—There were 91 members present.

Chairman.—The Acting State President, Mr. W. F. Pinerua, occupied the Chair.

The Late James Little.—Mr. Pinerua asked all present to stand in silence as a mark of respect to the late Acting State President, James Little, who passed away suddenly at the Twentieth Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference in the Stawell Hall of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians on Tuesday, August 18, 1953, at 2.10 p.m.

Notice Convening the Meeting.—Resolved that the notice convening the meeting be taken as read.

Annual Report, Balance Sheet and Accounts.—The Chairman said he would formally move adoption of the annual report, balance sheet and accounts. The report gave a précis of the work carried out and he would not labour each detail, as other important matters were for discussion.

An outstanding success of the year was the Guild Comprehensive Pricing Service, under the able direction of Mr. K. E. Thomas.

Mr. Pinerua offered thanks to the chairmen of sub-committees and to committeemen for their sacrifice in Guild work.

The balance sheet showed an improved state of affairs—the position had been stabilised. The finances had improved and over the next twelve months there should be no worry about the financial position.

Mr. J. N. Young, of Roselle, seconded the motion for adoption of the annual report, balance sheet and accounts.

Moved Mr. Ramsey, seconded Mr. Pinerua:—

"That this, the New South Wales State Branch of the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild, requires that

in future a properly audited balance sheet and income and expenditure account be published with the annual report of this State branch, and that the Federal Council takes the necessary steps to acquaint members of the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild generally with its financial position annually.

The motion adopting the annual report, balance sheet and accounts was **carried unanimously**.

Nominations—State Branch Committee.—The Chairman announced the following nominations for election to the State Branch Committee:—

Messrs. C. D. Bradford, R. W. Feller, R. S. Leece, O. C. V. Leggo, W. G. Sapsford and R. K. Strang.

As no greater number of candidates had been nominated than required to be elected, he had much pleasure in declaring the gentlemen named duly elected for the ensuing term. (Applause.)

Election of Sub-Committees.—Moved Mr. E. G. Hall, seconded Mr. C. M. Audley, that the State Branch Committee be empowered to elect its own sub-committees.—**Carried.**

Auditors.—It was resolved that Messrs. Holt and Thompson be re-appointed as auditors.

Notices of Motion.

Mr. D. Ramsay moved, pursuant to notice:—

"That this annual meeting of the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild (New South Wales Branch) urges the incoming committee to take all possible steps to have the Pharmacy Act amended so as to prohibit any further pharmacies being owned by other than registered pharmaceutical chemists."

Mr. Ramsay said he would like to add to the motion proper provision for the continuance of the pharmacies, previously owned by deceased pharmacists, by their dependants.

Mr. Segal: "By the dependants of deceased pharmacists."

Mr. Ramsay said that when the Guild sought protection against company pharmacy, the Government would not make this provision; that is, that no unregistered person could conduct a pharmacy. Mr. Fitzsimmons would not do it. There was a more friendly Government today and most pharmacists needed protection. "Go and get it," said Mr. Ramsay.

Mr. F. M. Davidson said he supported the motion, with the proviso protecting the widow or other dependants of a deceased pharmacist. He would second the motion with that rider.

The motion was carried as printed, with the following addition: "making due provision for the principal dependants of deceased pharmacists."

General Business.

Mr. Pinerua said he wanted the close attention of the meeting. Members would, no doubt, wish to discuss the P.B. and P.M.S. schemes, about which there had been a good deal of newspaper publicity. Mr. Pinerua said there had been quite a deal of correspondence between the Federal President, Mr. Eric Scott, and Sir Earle Page. This correspondence had been tabled by Mr. Scott at the Twentieth Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference in the Stawell Hall.

Correspondence was then read to the meeting.

The Chairman then said that Mr. Fraser would tell the meeting a few facts. (Applause.)

Mr. Fraser said he would go back beyond the correspondence just read. In 1952 the Government had said it was dissatisfied with the scheme on three points:

1. The amounts of the dispensing fees; 2, the wastage table; 3, purchasing units.

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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

The Government and the Guild, however, reached a state of stalemate and the matter was handed over to the Minister, which started the correspondence just read.

Mr. Pinerua said: "You have heard the context of the letters and the last reply by the Federal Council. We have got to resolve what our attitude will be. I would like a logical sequence of comments spoken to the point and brief. I want a direction from you as to what the Federal Council should do in the matter."

Mr. C. M. Audley (Dulwich Hill) read a motion, which he moved, as follows:—

"That this meeting of the New South Wales Guild continue to negotiate, through the Federal Negotiating Committee, with the Government."

Mr. Audley later read the second part of the motion: "That the Negotiating Committee be instructed that New South Wales wants an agreement signed and the debatable points negotiated as soon as possible."

Mr. Pinerua said he would accept the motion as one of two clauses.

Mr. Fraser seconded the motion, saying that the Negotiating Committee was composed of the Federal President, Mr. Eric Scott, Mr. L. J. Thompson and himself, who had been appointed by the Federal Council to negotiate with the Government. There must be a plebiscite of members before any terms could be accepted. Negotiations were still fluid. However, the Government had printed a new list in a secretive way and had circulated it. Of course, negotiations should be continued. Regarding the second part of the motion, the Guild wanted the Negotiating Committee to proceed to an agreement.

Mr. S. B. Lynch said he did not like the motion altogether. He did not like anything which rankled of appeasement. "Talk straight to the Government. We had taken a lot and not given much in return. The Government men had produced the price lists and said, 'That's it.' The time for appeasement had passed. Instead of continuing negotiations, why not approach the Prime Minister himself? If the status quo was disturbed, the Guild should walk out of the scheme. If any Guild member did not support the Guild, he would be a spineless creature. Steps should be taken to see that the press publish the true story on the chemists' side."

Mr. H. D. O'Connell said he wished to move an amendment "that this meeting has complete faith in the Negotiating Committee and is satisfied with negotiations up to date, and that this meeting supports the conditions laid down in the Federal President's letter of the 28th August, 1953." The publication of the price list was a breach of faith undoubtedly. Mr. Townley had had the 'free medicine baby' dumped in his lap. The rank and file members of Parliament would be horrified at the Government's breach of faith.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. D. Ramsay.

Mr. Fraser said the amendment was good. He agreed the action of the Government was a bad one—a totally bad thing. This week a letter had been sent by Mr. Attiwill to every State President, attaching a summary of the position as it existed today. The information supplied was for circulation to key men.

The publicity in the newspapers emanated from Mr. Attiwill and it summed up the position very well.

Mr. Cutler said he was against the amendment, which supported the Negotiating Committee, but tied it down. It must have a considerable degree of latitude.

Mr. O'Connell: "Move the amendment as a vote of confidence in the Negotiating Committee—it strengthens it."

The Chairman put the amendment, which was **carried**. The Chairman then put the amendment as the motion, which was also **carried**.

The Chairman called on Mr. K. E. Thomas to speak. (Applause.)

Mr. Thomas said negotiations had not closed and it might be redundant to comment at this stage. As long as principles were not sacrificed, varying methods could be used to arrive at the same financial end point.

Sulphadiazine tablets were exempt, because they had reached a high velocity of turnover. When this velocity dropped to below the 10 per cent. figure, the Thomas Table should again apply. If the Mixed Sulphas, "A" and "B," were to be removed from the Thomas Table, brand names should be deleted and there should be an increase in the ullage charge. Five per cent. was too small as a compensating factor.

Mr. Ingamells said he was not happy the way things were going. "What happened if negotiations broke down?"

Mr. Pinerua said he received a telegram which Federal Office sent to Mr. Leggo:—

"Federal President considers immediate plebiscite of members necessary on question of withdrawing service Pensioner Benefit and Repatriation on October 1st. Please telegraph your vote by return."

To this telegram, Mr. Pinerua said he had replied as follows:—

"Federal delegate no authority to vote on vital matters without consent of State Branch Committee Stop Further details requested immediately re proposed plebiscite and reasons therefor."

Mr. Pinerua said he had received a further telegram from Mr. Scott:—

"Please read following message from me to your annual meeting tonight. Record attendance Queensland annual Guild meeting handed over conduct of crisis to Federal Council in any action it may deem necessary to remedy position Stop Losses on pensioner dispensing and holding up of repatriation contract by Treasury in attempt to force our capitulation indicated as main line of our attack Stop Suggested October 1 deadline for refusal of service for both these contracts unless Government concedes Guild's just claims as outlined in our latest letter to Government Stop Therefore I propose immediately consult each Federal delegate for voting on necessity of plebiscite to determine Guild's action on this question Stop High volume of returns reaching Federal Office of tear-off slip showing unanimity unknown before in pharmacy Stop This particularly evident in returns from N.S.W. Stop Overwhelming percentage backing Federal Council's handling this situation reflects members' unprecedented solidarity, determination and unity of purpose to resist injustices in our contractual arrangements."

Mr. Pinerua said he would like the meeting to vote on Mr. Scott's proposal for a plebiscite.

Mr. Pinerua suggested a motion along the following lines: "That this annual general meeting resolves that if negotiations for just and equitable terms break down, this meeting desires that a plebiscite of Guild members be taken with a view to vesting in Federal Council the power to take whatever future action may be necessary in the matter."

Mr. Fraser said the Repatriation Agreement was held up by the Government to see if the Health Department could get better terms for P.M.S.

Mr. Pinerua moved the motion, as stated above. Seconded Mr. H. D. O'Connell.

The motion was put to the meeting and declared **carried unanimously**.

The meeting carried a vote of thanks to the chairman by acclamation.

The meeting rose at 11 p.m.

S.B.C. MEETING.

The State Branch Committee of the New South Wales Branch of the Guild met at "Science House," Sydney on August 6, there being present Messrs. J. Little, R. S. Leece, R. K. Strang, W. G. Sapsford, O. C. V. Leggo, C. D. Bradford, K. Jordan, W. F. Pinerua and K. E. Thomas.

NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

Country Visits.—Next visit, Goulburn, September 6.—Messrs. Strang, the Society representative, plus the secretary, to attend.

Nominations for Election as Officers of the State Branch Committee.—It was resolved that nominations close at 11 p.m. on August 6. Nominations were received in respect of the State President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Federal Delegate and Second Delegate.

Returning Officer.—Mr. W. G. Sapsford was appointed as returning officer in respect of the election of officers of the State Branch Committee.

Annual General Meeting.—To be held at "History House," August 31, at 8 p.m.

Filling of Mr. Fox's Place on the State Branch Committee.—Deferred.

Proposed "Chemist Only" Representative.—Deferred. Federal Delegate's Report.

(a) **Federal Council Meeting, Sydney, August 13,** at 9.30 a.m., in the Board Room at Science House.—It was decided to prepare credentials for Mr. Leggo and Mr. Pinerua.

(b) **Annual Meeting of Federal Council, Monday, October 26,** at Melbourne.

(c) **Pharmaceutical Benefits.**—(Letters to and from Sir Earle Page.) Three letters were laid on the table.

Report of Sub-Committees were dealt with as follows:

(A) **Trade and Commerce, Planning and Publicity.**—Report of meeting held on July 13, as circulated, was adopted.

Mr. Jordan said a good meeting had taken place with representatives of Reckitt and Colman (Aust.) Ltd.

"Dettol" Month, September, 1953.—It was reported that bookings for the film night totalled 160 to date of meeting.

Correspondence.—Merchandising Department, inquiring if the committee has made a decision concerning the "Gilseal" ultra-violet lamp. Deferred until an additional opinion is received from counsel.

Dawson, Waldron, Edward and Nicholls, forwarding counsel's opinion concerning ultra-violet lamps. Mr. Leggo said the Q.C. was to be supplied with additional data on which to base a further opinion.

(B) **Repatriation, Lodge and Hospital Dispensing.**—Report of meeting held on July 1, as circulated.

Correspondence.—The Friendly Societies' Association of N.S.W., reaffirming that statements made in the bulletins must be withdrawn.

Mr. J. R. Porges, Lithgow, re Mechanics' Medical Scheme—dispensing. The secretary said that Mr. Crane, of the Mechanics' Medical Scheme, had called in. He would again confer with the Guild after visiting Lithgow to discuss the matter of dispensing with Mr. Porges.

Mr. Bigelow (A.E.U. Medical Fund) wishes to discuss dispensing matters on August 24 at Science House. Mr. Feller said he would come into the Guild Office to see Mr. Bigelow.

Medical Benefits Fund of Australia, re advertisement in Maitland "Mercury." The secretary said that Mr. Cade had taken up the matter with the Maitland "Mercury."

I.C.S. Fund Prescription Books.—The secretary said that Mr. Robinson, of Dapto, had collected I.C.S. Fund prescription books for the Wollongong Fund.

(D) **Industrial and Early Closing.**

Proposed Abolition of Saturday Morning Trading.—It was decided to oppose the proposal and to watch the position.

It was resolved that the Federal delegate's report and the reports of sub-committees be received and adopted.

New Members Elected.—Neville Kingsbury Carr, Balgownie; Mrs. Betty Poppy Comino, Como West; Darrell Karp, Bellevue Hill; Francis Joseph Koppman, Cooma, and Mrs. Wilma Ada Pearson, North Albury.

Reinstatements.—Phillip Berner, Sussex Inlet; Justin Arthur Logan Cooke, South Cronulla; Gyrdon Murray, West Wyalong.

General.—Mr. Little said, in conjunction with the Pharmaceutical Society, a travelling case had been purchased for presentation to Miss Tyler on the occasion of her twenty-first birthday.

Correspondence Concerning Pharmaceutical Benefits, etc.—Mr. Sapsford said he appreciated the dissemination of information on this matter.

Central Displays.—Mr. Noel P. Callachor, of 89 Parramatta road, Camperdown, had made application to be accredited Guild window dressers. Under consideration. The meeting terminated at 11.5 p.m.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

"CORTONE—A HANDBOOK OF THERAPY." Published by Merck & Co. Inc. Pp. 129 and pp. xxxii clinical plates (colour and black and white). Available to physicians and pharmacists free on request to the distributors, F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd.

Here, in handy pocket size, is Merck's handbook on Cortone (Cortisone acetate) and Hydrocortone. The English language edition (the book has been printed in English, French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese) recently received represents the clinical knowledge and therapeutic evaluation of four years' experience with this addition to the physician's armamentarium.

The booklet is divided into three main sections. Section I deals with therapeutic measures generally in use where Cortone treatment has been found to be effective and stresses the value of combined therapy; e.g., Cortone and diathermy are advocated in treating bursitis; Cortone and antihistamines are indicated in allergic skin complaints. Pertinent information on the use of cortisone has been included to show the integral place of the hormone in the pattern of modern therapy.

Section II supplies details of clinical procedure in treatment with Cortone, together with dosages and the probable course of the disease. Case histories, accompanied by "before and after treatment" photographs, provide comparisons by which a physician may measure his patient's progress, and each disease discussed is followed by a bibliography, of use to those who wish to supplement their reading on any particular complaint.

Tolerance, contra-indications, and the detection and prevention of undesirable side effects (hypertension, delay in wound-healing, hyperglycemia, etc.) are covered by Section III. Tabulated matter shows the known (or probable) effects of cortisone on tissues generally; i.e., its metabolic, neuromuscular, enzymologic and other effects. This part of the work also includes a review of the research and development of Cortone and Hydrocortone.

A wide clinical field is dealt with, and amongst the diseases reviewed at length are rheumatoid arthritis (and allied conditions), bronchial asthma, rheumatic fever, inflammatory eye diseases, dermatitis and other skin complaints, both allergic and non-allergic, bursitis, Addison's disease, serum sickness, etc. Clinical response to Cortone in several other diseases is also commented upon, but reports (see p. 20) indicate that the results are variable or transient, and in some instances merely palliative.

The book is an unbiased record and recognises that much research still lies in the future. It fills a long-felt want in a comparatively new field of medical and pharmaceutical practice, and a copy should be in the hands of every chemist, so that he may be able to answer doctors' queries efficiently and authoritatively. —F.H.B.

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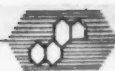
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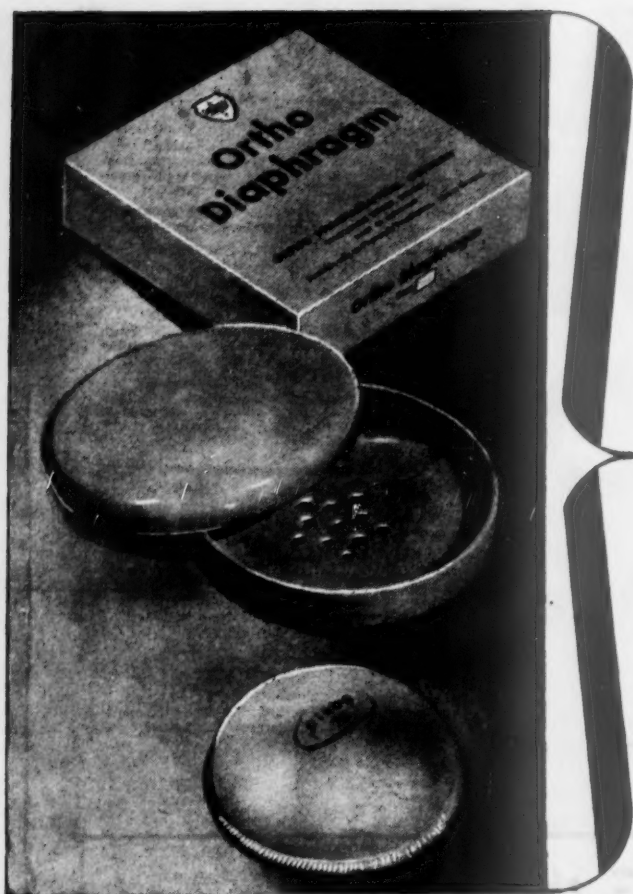
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